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USSR Takes Responsibility for Relations

LD2904085690 Tirana ATA in English 0812 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] Tirana, April 28 (ATA)—In one of its commentary on our country Radio Moska [Moscow] said "the foreign minister of the Soviet Union spoke of the relations of the Soviet Union with Albania. He underlined that the breaking off of the Soviet-Albanian relations could be avoided and the Soviet Union is not going to shrink from the responsibility of what happened".

Further on Radio Moska's commentator added that these words of the Soviet foreign minister are of a principled importance and I think they will find understanding in Tirana. It is the first time that such a senior Soviet official acknowledges that the Soviet Union bears the blame for this question.

Communications Agreement Signed With France

AU2804184290 Tirana ATA in English 0830 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Tirana, April 27 (ATA)—The agreement for cooperation in the field of posts and telecommunications between the General directorate of the PTT [Post-Telephone-Telegraph] of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania and the Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications, and Space of the French Republic was signed in Paris on April 26, 1990. For the Albanian side the agreement was signed by the director general of the Post-Telegraph-Telephones of the PSR of Albania, Dr. Sokol Hoxha, and for the French side by the director general of Posts, Yves Cousquier, and the director general of France Telecom, Marcel Roulet. On this occasion the agreement to open the accelerated postal service (EUS) was as well signed between France and Albania.

The signing ceremony was attended also by the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentionary of the PSR of Albania in France, Ksenofon Nushi.

Assembly Commissions Meet, Discuss Bills

AU2804191490 Tirana ATA in English 0821 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Tirana, April 28 (ATA)—In the course of the preparations for the coming session of the People's Assembly, the permanent Commission of Construction, Communications, Posts and Telecommunications Commission, and the Education and Culture Commission convened. At the Commission of Construction- Communications it was discussed on the draft laws to be forwarded to the coming session of the People's Assembly as that "For the Enterprises," "For the Prices and Tariffs," etc. The deputies, taking into account also the workers thoughts in the collectives they work, as well as of the electors, at first put questions and demanded explanations on separate questions that have to do with the improvement of the economic mechanism, dwelling especially on the growing of the concept of independent account management of the enteprise, down to self-financing of the needs for expanded reproduction in implementation of the decisions of the 10th plenum of the Party Central Committee and Comrade Ramiz Alia's instructions. The deputies discussed particularly on the draft law "For the Enterprises," considering it as related to the sectors of construction and communications.

The minister of transportion, Hajredin Celiku; the minister of construction, Ismail Ahmeti, as well as specialists, economists, and financiers invited by the State Planning Commission, departments, etc., discussed on the questions put and the views aired by discussants. It was stressed at the meeting that under the draft law, the relations of the state with the enterprise are built on the basis of unique state plan and financial obligation to be deposited in the budget, despite its economic state [sentence as received]. In compliance with this orientation, the enteprise will have more rights in the field of planning, production, and distribution, export-import, labour and wages, and utilization of financial funds.

The meeting of the commission was also attended by Xhafer Spahiu, vice-president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly.

The Permanent Commission on Education and Culture discussed on the draft laws to be forwarded at the coming session of the People's Assembly. Following the questions and various explanations by the experts of justice and economy invited at the meeting, the deputies tackled with each of the draft laws forwarded, threshed out opinions, and made suggestions. It was stressed among the others that the changes to the Penal Code, the creation of a Bar Association and of the Ministry of Justice, the Rehabilitation Institution, etc., make up the materialization of the ideas of the 10th plenum of the Central Committee of the Party, they are an expression of the deepening of socialist democracy, strengthening of legislation, and put on a more righteous relation the protection of the interests of the society and state with those of the citizen. The deputies said that in their meetings with,the electors, the latter have endorsed these changes.

The meeting of this commission was also attended by Sihat Tozaj, secretary of the Presidium of the People's Assembly.

Commissions Examine Bills

AU2904160890 Tirana ATA in English 0847 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Tirana, April 29 (ATA)—The meeting of the Commission of Industry [of the People's Assembly] discussed at length on the draft laws forwarded by the Council of Ministers, which represent the improvement of economic mechanism and our legislation in the context of implementing the tasks set by the 10th plenum of the Party Central Committee. The deputies put questions and asked for explanations on some articles in the draft laws, dwelling particularly on the problems facing the enterprises of the system of industry, mines and energy, foodstuffs, and light industry.

Tackling with the draft law "On the enterprises," particularly on the growth of the concept on independent economic management, the deputies spoke on some amendments to this draft law.

The meeting was also attended by Besnik Bekteshi, minister of industry, mining, and energy; Vito Kapo, minister of light industry; Jovan Bardhi, minister of foodstuffs industry, and specialists, economists, financiers of ministries and State Planning Commission, and officials of the economic industrial enterprises.

The deputies of the Permanent Commission of Agriculture focused their attention particularly on the draft law "On the enterprises." Pali Miska, minister of agriculture, in his speech, dwelt particularly on the priorities of this draft law for the enterprises of the system of agriculture as well as on the measures adopted by this ministry in order to solve the problems set by the 10th plenum of the Party Central Committee on the independent economic management of the enterprises.

The chairman of this commission, Ahmet Osja, in his contribution dwelt on the indispensability of enhancing the role of advanced economic thinking of the bank, etc., on the intensification of the agricultural and livestock production, and to make more rentable this sector of economy.

Likewise, the deputies discussed on the other draft-laws to be forwarded at the coming session of the People's Assembly.

May Day Preparations in Tirana Noted

AU2904191890

[Editorial Report] Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian at 1800 GMT on 29 April broadcasts a four-minute interview with Spiro Lako, Tirana District Albanian Workers Party Committee secretary, on plans for a "big popular May Day picnic." Lako states that in "recent contacts with the people, they expressed the desire that May Day be celebrated as a cultured popular festival in the form of a massive picnic." Lako goes on to say that this suggestion came from a number of workers, young people, writers, and so forth, arguing that picnics are a traditional form of entertainment and that in past years the people of Tirana have organized picnics on the day.

Answering a question by a reporter, Lako says that the "big popular picnic" will be organized in the main Tirana park, and the National Park on Mount Dajti, near the city, and in another indistinct traditional place, "by families or social groups." Artistic performances and sports activities will be organized at various points and public catering facilities will be increased, while theaters will perform their most popular programs on 30 April and 1 May.

Lako does not say whether these activities will be in addition to the traditional May Day parade or whether the latter has been canceled.

Driver Transported Parts for Iraqi Gun

AU2904200690 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1930 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] The Turkish Customs Authorities have seized two trucks near the Bulgarian border. The trucks transported steel pipes, which could be parts of a giant Iraqi gun system, the semi-official Turkish ANATOLIA Agency reported. Earlier, the Turkish authorities seized two other trucks, which transported similar pipes.

The ANATOLIA Agency quoted the driver, Petur Todorov, a Bulgarian, who stated that the truck was already loaded when he started his shift in the FRG and that he does not know for what purpose the pipes could be used.

President Supports Proposal on Visit by Pope

AU2704183990 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 26 Apr 90 p 1

[Text of undated letter from President Petur Mladenov to the DUMA Editorial Board]

[Text] To the DUMA Editorial Board.

I learned with great interest and attention of your idea to invite His Holiness Pope John-Paul II to visit Bulgaria during the celebration of the Festival of St. Kiril and Metodiy on 24 May this year.

I have long known and respected the eminent head of the Roman Catholic Church as a supporter of the apostolic mission of the two Slav enlighteners, as a friend of the Bulgarian people, and a lover of peace.

I support your proposal to set up a national committee, including myself as a member, which will send an invitation to His Holiness to visit our country. As Bulgarian head of state, I am willing to receive Pope John-Paul II.

[signed] Petur Mladenov

Friendship Society With Israel Forms in Sofia

AU2804164790 Sofia BTA in English 1343 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Sofia, April 28 (BTA)—A Bulgaro-Israeli Friendship Society has been founded here. The new association is a voluntary self-managing public organization of Bulgarian citizens, democratic, independent, non-governmental and above all parties. The society will carry out activity for the promotion of friendship and cooperation between the peoples of the two countries. Its immediate purpose is the mutual popularization of the two people's historical and cultural values, the extension of contacts in the field of science, education and economy, rendering assistance to Bulgarian and Israeli organizations and companies and the rapprochement of people.

The society will finance itself by donations and by carrying out economic activity. Academician Angel Angelov, vice-president of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, has been elected chairman of its Executive Board. Regional clubs of the society will be set up in other centres in the country.

Cables of greetings were read at the meeting of the society, including the cable sent by the Bulgaro-Israeli Friendship Society established a month and a half ago in Jerusalem.

At the time of the constituent meeting of the society a group of Arab students studying in Bulgaria organized a protest demonstration in front of the building of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

BSP Backed by 38.5 Percent of Polled Voters

AU2804163890 Sofia BTA in English 1349 GMT 28 Apr 90

["Two-thirds of Voters Don't Believe Elections Will Be Democratic and Free"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 28 (BTA)—Fifty days before the elections for a Grand (constituent) National Assembly 38.5 per cent of the full-legal-age Bulgarian citizens state they will cast their vote for the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP, the former Communist Party). 31 per cent are going to vote for the biggest opposition group, the Union of Democratic Forces (SDS). But 19.6 per cent of the respondents have no definite preferences and 35.2 per cent have not made a firm decision yet. The official Bulgarian Agrarian Party (BZNS) can play a decisive role in the distribution of forces in the future parliament, because now only eight per cent of the voters who have made their decision state that they are going to vote for the BZNS.

From the public opinion survey held by the Central Statistical Department in the period April 12-19 it becomes obvious that about two-thirds (64.8) per cent of the potential voters have made their choice.

Now only one-third of the respondents are sure that the elections are going to be really free and democratic.

The preferred form of rule after the elections is the coalition, i.e. a government that should be made up of representatives of all political parties, say 42 per cent of the respondents. About a half of the respondents want one-party government. 24 per cent are for an independent cabinet formed by the BSP, 15.3 per cent favour a SDS government and 6.1 per cent are for a BZNS government.

The communist society as an alternative for Bulgaria's future is categorically losing its supporters; only 8.7 per cent of the respondents made a stand for it; they are mainly elderly and poorly educated villagers.

Two-thirds of the full-legal-age population consider that Bulgaria should seek to build up "a modern democratic society."

The survey was held with 2,472 people over 18 years of age, chosen at random. The data is representative of the whole full-legal-age population in the country.

Lilov Speaks at Kozloduy BSP Rally

AU2704202290 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Numerous people gathered in Kozloduy tonight in order to attend a Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] election rally. BSP Supreme Council Chairman Aleksandur Lilov spoke at the rally. He stressed that the Socialists are in favor of a dialogue with the Union of Democratic Forces [UDF] and with all political parties for the sake of Bulgaria's happiness and prosperity.

According to the speaker, the country's progress is based on unity and not on hatred and hostility between political forces. The main goal today is to achieve goodwill and common sense for the country's future, he stated.

Aleksandur Lilov pointed out that the BSP accepts criticism of its own shortcomings and will not repeat them, guaranteeing, at the same time, that it intends to struggle for democracy so that the worthiest men elected by the people may rule the country.

BSP Reform Wing Against ASO in Elections

AU2704184690 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 26 Apr 90 p 1

[Dora Chichkova report: "'Demos' Calls for Unity of BSP Radicals"]

[Text] The Movement for Democratic Socialism ('Demos') does not support the decision of the Alternative Socialist Association [ASO] to run in the elections with alternative (pink) ballot tickets. This does not signify a split in the reforming wing of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP]. Quite the contrary, 'Demos' intends to intensify its work to achieve unity among the radical ideological trends in the party.

At an election meeting held on 25 April, Aleksandur Tomov, the movement's Coordinating Committee chairman, explained the movement's election tactics. Its supporters and allies were called upon to actively participate in the election campaign within the party. During the candidate-selection process, they must not permit discredited and unworthy persons to be included in the party's lists of candidates.

BSP's Zarchev Clarifies Membership Conditions

AU2704161890 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 25 Apr 90 p 2

[Darina Radeva report on interview with Dr. Yordan Zarchev, Bulgarian Socialist Party Central Commission on Party Ethics chairman; place and date not given: "The Primary Party Organizations Decide on Membership Questions"]

[Text] Numerous letters addressed to the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] Central Commission on Party Ethics and to the DUMA Editorial Board ask questions related to the decision made at the 13 April 1990 session of the Central Commission on Party Ethics and to the announcement about a proposal to expel certain former leading party functionaries from the primary party organizations. What is the essential meaning of these questions?

Dr. Yordan Zarchev replied as follows:

I feel obliged to clarify that the Central Commission on Party Ethics is not entitled to expel party members and has not made any decisions in connection with the aforementioned expulsions. We proposed to the primary party organizations that they review the documents we have submitted to them and express their opinion on the party stand concerning certain party members. It is true that the discussion has become increasingly emotional and some new names were mentioned—including Georgi Atansov's name. However, I repeat, we are not interferring with the decisions of the primary party organizations in such cases.

The Central Commission on Party Ethics actually expelled some former members of the upper echelon of the party. However, we were authorized by the 14th Extraordinary Congress to carry out this decision.

In the meantime, we will continue to carefully examine all tips submitted to the commission, but will not allow anything slanderous. We will devote all our efforts to a conscientous scrutiny and investigation of the facts. We think that the lack of a resolute and courageous stand on our own part, on the part of the municipal party ethics commissions, and on the part of the local party organizations, in particular in the case of people who are really responsible for wrongdoings—and not only according to rumor, as well as those people who have really abused their official positions, and have encroached upon legal norms and upon the moral code, causes real damages to the party.

Alternative Socialist Party's News Conference

AU2704182990 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 26 Apr 90 p 2

[Vasil Popov report: "The Alternative Socialist Party Will Support Independent Candidates"]

[Text] Sofia, 25 April—The election campaign will be not only a struggle of platforms, but also a fight for trust, said Alternative Socialist Party [ASP] Chairman Nikolay Vasilev. At its first election news conference, the ASP leadership did not reveal but merely hinted at the methods by which the ASP will create its image. It was stressed that they would not use consultants and specialists, in order to prevent any form of election demagogy.

The party chairman let it be known that no coalition with the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] is envisioned. The ASP may take part in governing the country together with the Bulgarian Social Democratic Party, the New Social Democratic Party, the Green Party, the Radical Democratic Party, and "Ecoglasnost."

No other party has put forward programs and platforms similar to ours, Vasilev claimed. The differences between the economic programs of the BSP and ASP were pointed out by Asen Michkovski. The ASP stands for giving priority to the development of private ownership until it becomes dominant.

The ASP's election candidates will predominantly be young people, specialists, and professionals. People who are not members of parties, like Blaga Dimitrova, Marko Ganchev, and others, will also be supported as candidates.

It was emphasized that the ASP is not a member of the Union of Democratic Forces [UDF], but it has a political agreement with the UDF for cooperation in the election campaign, and it will coordinate its own list of candidates with them. The ASP's election campaign is financed by the government.

A joint declaration of the ASP and UDF was read concerning the registration of the Alternative Socialist Association [ASO] (a BSP faction) as an independent political force that will run its own candidates in the elections. This was defined as an attempt to split the UDF. The declaration pointed out that the Electoral Law permits such a registration, but the UDF and ASP find it to be a breach of the law.

Vasilev said that the ASP's goal in the forthcoming elections is to exceed the four-percent limit for proportional participation and that the party will propose highly qualified specialists who, if they become members of the Grand National Assembly, will be of use in hammering out the future legislation.

UDF Holds Election Rally in Tolbukhin

AU2704202490 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Under the slogan—45 Years are enough; the time is ours—over 8,000 citizens of Tolbukhin gathered in the city's Freedom Square and held an election rally organized by the Union of Democratic Forces [UDF]. The rally was opened and chaired by (?Ivelin) Petrov, UDF Coordination Council member.

Speeches were delivered by Petur Beron, Doncho Papazov, Ivan Penchev, and Zhelyu Zhelev. In his speech, Zhelyu Zhelev expressed gratitude to the Tolbukhin citizens for their mass support of the democratic forces in the struggle for winning the elections by the UDF.

UDF Rejects Joint Ticket With Opposition

AU3004112690 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 25 Apr 90 p 2

[Text] The Union of Democratic Forces [UDF] has rejected the proposal of the Political Opposition Bloc [POB] to run on a joint ticket of the Bulgarian democratic opposition for the forthcoming elections.

The Liberal-Democratic Party, one of the bloc members, describes the decision of the UDF to be an act of political shortsightedness and as being incompatible with the interests of the Bulgarian democratic opposition. The six parties of the bloc will participate in the elections on separate tickets.

As a center union, the POB is a parallel structure to the UDF, but to the right of it.

The first consultative meetings of the POB have already taken place and its political orientation was thoroughly discussed. The meetings were organized with the assistance of the "F. Naumann" Foundation of the FRG Free Democratic Party [FDP]. The lectures were conducted by Peter Schroeder, the foundation's political consultant.

Experts of the FRG foundation acquired their experience from the election campaigns of the liberal blocs in West and East European countries and in Latin America. They intend to assist the POB in all its political activities.

Political Opposition Bloc Opens Conference

AU2804151490 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 0900 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Nina Spasova report—live]

[Text] [Announcer] The Political Opposition Bloc [POB] is holding a conference in Sofia today. Our reporter Nina Spasova is in the studio with the following report:

[Spasova] I will remind our listeners that the POB is not a member of the Union of Democratic Forces and includes six parties: the Bulgarian National Democratic Party, the Liberal Democratic Party, the Independent Democratic Party, the Party of Free Democrats, the Party of Liberty and Progress, and the Christian Republican Party.

The chief aim of today's national conference is to define the bloc's program and strategy for the forthcoming elections. After a brief welcoming speech to the participants and a one-minute silence in memory of the victims who suffered for liberty and democracy, Ivan Georgiev, Party of Liberty and Progress chairman, took the floor. He gave brief descriptions of the parties making up the bloc and their platforms, aims, and tasks.

During the discussion of the agenda, Christian Republican Party Chairman Konstantin Adzharov asked to speak and made a sharp objection. According to him, the

Christian Republican Party leadership learned on 27 April from the newspapers that its yellow ballot paper, which the party declared for its individual participation in the elections, had been registered as the ballot paper for the entire POB, without the agreement of the Christian Republican Party. The Secretariat replied to Mr. Adzharov that this had also occurred without the knowledge of the other POB parties. A protest has been prepared on this matter to the Central Electoral Commission, the contents of which will be conveyed to the participants later in the conference.

Independent Democratic Party Chairman Mr. Petur Gogov made a speech on the topic: The Bulgarian opposition during the period from 18 November 1989 to 18 April 1990. In his speech, he described what the Bulgarian democratic opposition had achieved during the five months of its existence, made a survey of the political forces of the opposition, and outlined the prospects and political strategy of the parties making up the POB. Mr. Gogov pointed out that the aim of the POB is to play the role of a political center and that the bloc differs from all the other political alliances in the country in that its ranks do not include a single Communist. The conference is continuing, and we will keep you informed of its proceedings in later broadcasts.

Christian Democrats Leave

AU2804203090 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Excerpts] A national conference of the Political Opposition Bloc is in progress in Sofia. [passage omitted] The conference debated part of the bloc's election platform. The platform's economic section was the subject of particularly extensive speeches, in which the delegates proposed various ways to solve the economic crisis. It was made clear that the proposals would be taken into consideration during the drafting of the final version of the election program.

At the session's end, the Christian Democratic Party declared officially that it was leaving the Political Opposition Bloc. In their declaration, the party's delegates made a protest against the publication of important documents and the adoption of decisions without the agreement of all the parties making up the bloc. The conference will continue on 29 April.

National Conference Ends

AU3004090490 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] On 29 April in Sofia, the two-day national conference of the Political Opposition Bloc ended. After the Christian Democratic Party officially left the bloc on 28 April, it now comprises five political parties that remain outside the Union of Democratic Forces.

The conference delegates discussed the bloc's election platform and strategy at the forthcoming elections. The conference speakers described the parties and the bloc as centrist. The intention of being a political factor in the political struggle was expressed. It was pointed out that the Political Opposition Bloc will adhere to its idea to unite the opposition and will strive toward political agreements on joint actions with all parties, associations, and other opposition organizations.

The Political Opposition Bloc adopted a declaration in which it insists on obtaining equal election campaign participation in the mass media and organizing a meeting between its leaders and President Petur Mladenov.

After the end of the conference, Political Opposition Bloc supporters held a rally at St. Aleksandur Nevski Square, at which the speaker again called for the unity of all opposition forces in the election struggle.

Opposition Election Platform Issued

AU2804192690 Sofia BTA in English 1726 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Sofia, April 28 (BTA)—"45 Years Is Enough, Time Belongs to Us"—this is the motto under which today's DEMOKRATSIYA has published the first part of the election platform of the opposition Union of Democratic Forces (SDS) [UDF].

The opposition strives for the establishment of an independent, democratic and prosperous state in Bulgaria. It is underlined in the platform that the ruling communist party (the Bulgarian Socialist Party) is ideologically burdened, that it is a carrier of inherent moral corruption, managerial cynicism and criminality and that it is historically doomed. The totalitarian regime plunged the society into a total crisis, it is said in the platform.

The major points in the election platform are as follows:

The delimitation of the three spheres of state power—the executive, the legislature and the judiciary—should become a reality.

The Army, the militia, all courts of law and the prosecution should be absolutely depoliticized.

The national mass media should become independent.

The key problems of society should be discussed in public.

Lasting democracy can be achieved only through peaceful means.

Morality should be given priority over law; a constitutional court, an institution of a parliamentary protector of citizens' rights and independent administrative justice should be established.

One party only, no matter which, cannot tackle the crisis, but on the other hand the multiparty system alone does not provide a sufficient guarantee that it will be overcome.

Broad and real participation of all citizens in the management of the country should be ensured.

Denationalization is considered a path to achieving a higher economic effectiveness and a way through which the personality will be released from the tutelage of the state.

All basic rules laid down in the European Social Charter should be legally strengthened.

The Army should be built up on the principle of growing professionalism; national service in the Army should be initially reduced to 18 months and later on to 12 months; the minister of defense should be a civilian.

The limited sovereignty doctrine imposed in the name of the so-called "proletarian internationalism and socialist community" should be categorically rejected.

All ethnic groups should be equal before the law; the territorial integrity of the country should be guaranteed; it should normalize its relations with the neighbouring countries; the rights of the minorities in Bulgaria should be safeguarded; close relations should be maintained with all Bulgarian communities of emigrants abroad.

Bulgaria's foreign policy should be oriented to the complete integration with the European structures—economic, financial, political, etc.; diplomacy should be professional; dissolution/disbanding the Warsaw Treaty Organization, and NATO should be disbanded simultaneously when the necessary prerequisites for it are created.

Bulgaria should reassess her membership in CMEA [CEMA], which is necessary because of the obvious inefficiency of this organization.

The people who pushed the country into a crisis must go away and bear the whole responsibility for what they have done; this is considered the most important condition for overcoming the economic crisis. Society and the economy should be managed by true professionals, no matter what their political persuasions may be.

The country's quick and all-embracing transition to a market economy can have no other alternative.

Private, municipal and state property should enjoy equality guaranteed by the Constitution.

Private capital should become the true motive power of economic life. A system of preferences, tax concessions and incentives for private, small and newly created business enterprises should be built up. Privatization should be carried out step by step and all monopoly structures should be dismantled. A democratic agrarian reform should be implemented. The land should be returned to the people who owned it before the forcible collectivization or to their successors. Land should become the subject of purchase and sale. Agriculture should receive enhanced aid from the state.

A modern monetary and capital market should be created. A sweeping taxation and budget reform should be carried out. The centralization of means and their distribution through the budget should sharply decrease from the present 85-90 per cent of the national income to a maximum of 45-50 per cent. A uniform proportional tax on profits made should be introduced and possibilities for concessions should be ensured when the question is about companies newly set up in the private business sector.

Bulgaria should joining the major international institutions which regulate the commercial, currency and financial relations. Export should be stimulated and helped along. Foreign trade, currency and credit relations should be managed through economic means.

A two-stage anti-crisis programme, very condensed from the point of view of time, should be implemented.

Measures should be taken for the restoration of the ecological equilibrium, mainly through the reconstruction and building of new purifying installations in power engineering.

A reform should be carried out in health care, the health care budget should be decentralized, a system of social health insurance funds should be set up and pluralism should be asserted in the organization of health care.

As not all jobs would be necessarily preserved, a system of continuous personnel retraining should be established. An adequate mechanism of indexing incomes should be applied.

Guarantees should be given to women and children. Raising children should be considered the most useful social labour. Raising more than two children should become a profitable occupation.

Culture should be freed from total ideologies, cultural diversity should be promoted, Bulgaria should open to the world culture, constitutional and normative guarantees for the development of culture should be given.

A new democratic law of religious denominations should be adopted.

Freedom should be given to science and modern education.

Bulgarian teachers should be guaranteed the freedom of initiative.

The second part of the SDS election programme will be brought out by DEMOKRATSIYA on Friday, May 4, 1990.

Opposition Election Rally in Dolna Oryakhovitsa

AU2804200990 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] This evening the Union of Democratic Forces [UDF] local organizations in the town of Dolna Oryakhovitsa held their first town election meeting.

Speakers from the town organizations of the Nikola Petkov Bulgarian National Agrarian Union and the Bulgarian Social Democratic Party, as well as UDF representatives from Veliko Turnovo and Gorna Oryakhovitsa, spoke about the crimes of the totalitarian system, the wrong agrarian policy of the Bulgarian Communist Party that led to a crisis in the Bulgarian countryside, the huge foreign debts, and the country's serious economic position. They appealed for the land to be returned to its owners and heirs, for the development of a market economy oriented toward the Western countries, and for the future state organization to be placed on a modern (?constitutional) foundation.

Calling upon the inhabitants of the town of Dolna Oryakhovitsa to vote for the blue UDF ballot ticket, the speakers voiced their conviction that the winning of the elections by the UDF was the only guarantee for a peaceful transition toward democracy.

Association Members Form New Election Alliance

AU2704193090 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 25 Apr 90 p 2

[Text] Representatives of the movements and organizations that are members of the "Bulgaria" Association formed an election alliance under the name Alliance for Bulgaria [Alians za Bulgaria].

The following organizations are included: The Nationwide Comittee for the Defense of National Interests, the "Rodolyubie" Rhodope Union, the "Dobrudzha" All-Bulgarian Union, The Club of Intellectuals in Bulgaria and the "Asen Zlatarov" Scientific Workers Club.

Democratic Party Restoration Congress Opens

AU2904204290 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1930 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] On 29 April, the Democratic Party's 13th Restoration Congress opened. The Democratic Party was established almost 100 years ago, although during the last 40 years it was absent from the political scene.

The businesslike activities of the congress began only two hours after its opening, during which procedural issues were discussed. Dimitur Diamandiev, chairman of the Democratic Party Provisional Operational Bureau, read a report. He analyzed the situation in the country and pointed out that it is characterized by the polarization of the political forces, a phenomenon that also takes place inside the Democratic Party itself. The speaker appealed to the delegates to strive for unity in the struggle for asserting democracy in the country, in the name of freedom and progress.

A charter and platform were tabled for discussion and some organizational tasks were reviewed. The discussion of the draft charter resulted in certain amendments and addenda, related to the decentralized organizational structure of the party. The attitude of one leader, who received a vote of no-confidence at the recent Democratic Party national conference, evoked sharp discussion and radical assessments. The appeal for unity at the forthcoming election struggle gained the upper hand. On 30 April, the congress will continue with the election of the new leadership.

Mladenov Asks for 'Civilized' Political Campaign

AU2904145390 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 0900 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Speech by President Petur Mladenov under the rubric "Minutes to the President" on the Bulgarian Radio "Sunday-150" program—recorded]

[Text] Dear compatriots,

I would like to share with you some impressions of the development of political life in Bulgaria. This life now enters the decisive phase of the transition toward the democratic system. The election campaign has reached its peak. Passions are inflamed. More than 50 parties are participating in the contest for parliamentarian representation in the Grand National Assembly.

In my address to you a few days ago, I proposed that the political forces in the country sign a document in which they will relinquish violence and assume the obligation to respect the laws and the citizens' rights before, during, and after the elections. I was greatly encouraged by the overwhelming positive response to this initiative. Within a few days, almost 2 million citizens expressed their support in letters, signatures, and personal calls. This shows how powerful the aspiration of the people toward peace, renewal, security, and calm are.

All this is good. It shows that Bulgaria has categorically embarked upon the road of democracy so much desired by all of us. I hope that we all will be able to peacefully complete this difficult journey.

However, I must share with you my concern with certain facts that could provide grounds for the accusation that our people are still not sufficiently mature for democracy. My thoughts were prompted by the crushing attacks that appeared in magazines, speeches, and declarations. I pondered the question of what brought those attacks and what prompted the dishonorable behavior, lack of restraint, and lack of intelligence that emerged in recent days and weeks. I repeatedly tried to find the answer and each time reached the same conclusion: Apparently we still have not gotten used to the idea that democracy is not produced by a single social or political group or layer, but that it can only be the result of comprehensive and joint efforts.

Unfortunately, emotions and personal ambitions frequently gain the upper hand and silence political prudence. Apparently, the striving for victory by all means and at all costs is more powerful than the much more important goal of making political relations more humane. I think that we continue to frequently mix up the goal and the means. I think that despite heated exchanges, election clashes can and must remain within the framework of correctness, decency, and humaneness. Otherwise, concepts such as democracy and honesty would lose their meaning.

I share this concern with you because the logic of confrontation always tends to associate itself with the logic of violence, and, as you know, violence has never produced anything except more violence.

Can we overcome the negative phenomena that have emerged? I believe, no, I am convinced that we can, despite the fact that it will not be easy. It will not be easy because for almost 70 years our society has been closer to civil war than to civil peace. It will not be easy because the totalitarian system prompted confrontation rather than unity. It will not be easy because apparently not everyone is inclined yet to see that we have more than two colors in our world, regardless of whether they are black and white or red and blue [red and blue are the respective colors of the ballots of the Bulgarian Socialist Party and the Union of Democratic Forces]. Nevertheless, for the sake of Bulgaria and life itself, we must overcome the negative factors that have accumulated throughout history.

Democracy is a unifying and wholesome factor. It is not and cannot be the property or patent of a certain person or group of persons. Let us demonstrate as people that we understand this elementary truth, and that our country deserves to assume its place in the united European family.

We are well known throughout the world. The credit for this belongs to our working people and the most worthy representatives of the Bulgarian intelligentsia, who undertook the assignment of preparing the people from a moral point of view for the transition toward democracy.

I address all Bulgarian citizens, and especially our intelligentsia: Bulgaria needs your help! Please appeal for political culture! Give an example and demonstrate the advantage of the moral factors and prudence over the power of ignorance and the ignorance of power. I believe that you are capable of doing this. We have no other alternative of survival other than determining our fate as a civilized and modern people, united by a sense of common belonging to our nation and mankind.

Election Commission Sets Voting Rules

AU2904185090 Sofia BTA in English 1752 GMT 29 Apr 90

["How Will Military Men and Bulgarians Abroad Cast Their Vote"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 29 (BTA)—The Central Election Commission decided how the election campaign and the voting procedure on June 10 should be held in the Armed Forces.

The election campaign among the men doing their national service in the Army should be held according to the provisions contained in the Grand National Assembly Election Law. All parties and election coalitions can give their platforms and addresses for publication in NARODNA ARMIYA, the paper of the Ministry of National Defense. Outside their military units, the men doing their national service in the Army will be given the possibility of pre-election meetings with all candidates and representatives of parties and election coalitions.

Officers, sergeants on the army payroll, military employees and workers in the system of the Armed Forces will cast their votes in the place of residence.

The procedure of making the electoral lists of Bulgarian citizens who are abroad was also determined. All Bulgarian citizens who work abroad on any grounds whatsoever, all Bulgarian citizens who live permanently abroad and those residing in other countries on any grounds whatsoever have the right to vote there. The persons who have foreign Bulgarian passports but have been relieved or stripped of Bulgarian citizenship have no right to vote.

Election Campaign Instructions Issued to Army

AU2704180090

[Editorial Report] Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian on 26 April on page 3 publishes the 1,200-word text of the "Instructions of the Minister of National Defense on the Election Campaign Among the Servicemen of the Bulgarian People's Army [BPA] and on Their Participation in the Election of a Grand National Assembly," consisting of a preamble and 10 numbered articles.

According to Article 1, Army servicemen are to exercise their voting rights "in strict accordance with the Constitution and the Law on Election of a Grand National Assembly." Article 2 states that military employees "are to exercise their election rights at their places of residence. They are not entitled to conduct in their units election campaign activities of the political parties and coalitions of which they are members or whose political platform they support." Article 3 says that "Army conscripts are to take part in the elections in separate electoral sections in the centers of population in which their units are located."

According to Article 4, "servicemen's electoral rolls are to be compiled in the applicable unit under the supervision of the commander, who signs them." Article 5 concerns organizing polling stations. Article 6 instructs commanders to provide facilities for servicemen to follow election programs on radio and television; in coordination with the local electoral commissions, they are also to "arrange two election meetings for the servicemen of each electoral district outside the territory of the military units. The first is to be held between 14 and 25 May with all candidates under the majority election system, and the second between 28 May and 6 June with all parties and coalitions under the proportional system." Under Article 7, "contacts with parliamentary candidates or with local leaderships of political parties and election coalitions on all matters connected with the election campaign and holding the elections are to be made only by the commanders or their appointed deputies." The same article includes regulations on the provision and display of party political propaganda.

Article 8 instructs the commanders to allow time off duty for servicemen to vote. Article 9 states that parliamentary candidates and election officials will not be called up from the reserves before the elections are over. According to Article 10, NARODNA ARMIYA is to publish party election platforms and appeals, which should be submitted before 15 May. The "Instructions" are signed by Army General Dobri Dzhurov, minister of national defense.

Economics Minister at Private Business Congress

AU2804172390 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 0900 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] The first private business congress has opened in Sofia. Valentin Molov, chairman of the Alliance for Citizens' Economic Initiative [Suyuz za Stopanska Initsiativa na Grazhdanite], was extremely laconic and specific in his accountability report on what had been fulfilled in relation to the promises made at the constituent meeting four months ago. The Alliance has its own image and authority, which are taken seriously and are well known abroad. The most serious restrictions on initiative in economic legislation have been eliminated. Regional alliances for private initiative are functioning in almost all large towns, the alliance's own weekly 168 CHASA [168 Hours] came out two days ago, and as of 29 April the alliance will also have its own bank.

In his greetings speech as a guest of the congress, Economics and Planning Minister Ivan Tenev touched upon the chief problems requiring solution, namely denationalization, stimulation of competition and restriction of monopolies, and the setting up of exchange markets. He stressed that the new legislative regulations would ensure that the different forms of property are really placed on an equal footing. Ivan Tenev declared to the congress that the government is working with inner conviction of the need for these changes.

In his greetings speech to the congress participants, Ventsislav Dimitrov, an Union of Democratic Forces [UDF] economic expert, cited the premise for private ownership set out in the UDF election program published today.

The opening of the first congress of the Alliance for Citizens' Economic Initiative was also attended by U.S. Ambassador Sol Polansky and other diplomats. The congress' session is continuing its work with speeches by the participants.

Further on Congress

AU2904184890 Sofia BTA in English 1746 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] Sofia, April 29 (BTA)—Great opportunities are opened for private businessmen in Bulgaria—this statement was repeated over and over again at the congress of the Citizens' Economic Initiative Union held here on April 28-29. The union has a membership of more than 4,000 private companies; the number of private companies registered by April 16, 1990 is 22 thousand.

Thanks to the persistence and the enterprise of the union in the last months, a number of changes have been made in the economic activity decree of the former State Council and in other normative acts. The first private bank has been established. It can grant credits to the members of the union amounting to about 100 million leva. Private companies can already carry out foreign trade activity.

The economic initiative union was formed four months ago. It has made it its purpose to dismantle the taxation system which in its present form was defined as "enslaving and destructive for the private sector". Leasing is considered to be a "system of exploitation". It was suggested that in the future the union should not commit itself to any political parties or movements.

Aleksandur Karakachanov, chairman of the Green Party, delivered a speech at the congress. He said that his party has put forward the candidature of Valentin Mollov, chairman of the Economic Initiative Union, for representative at the Grand National Assembly.

Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, chairman of the Coordinating Council of the opposition Union of Democratic Forces (SDS) [UDF] reminded, that the platform of the opposition envisages large-scale privatization in all spheres of economic life. "There is no doubt that we will win the elections", he said.

Ivan Tenev, minister of economy and planning in the present communist cabinet, pointed out that the work on the draft of a law on setting up an exchange in Bulgaria is at an advanced stage. According to him the law will solve most of the problems of private businessmen. "We cannot seriously speak about a transition to market economy without creating all conditions for the promotion of private business, for guaranteeing complete freedom to investments and for large-scale privatization", the minister said.

Oil Workers 'Symbolic' Strike Announced

AU2704204790 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian
25 Apr 90 p 2

[Tsanko Raychev report: "Oil Workers on Strike"]

[Text] Burgas, 24 April—Thousands of oil workers went to their workplaces wearing blue ribbons today. This is a sign of the symbolic strike that is expected to continue as long as a commission from Sofia has not arrived and all demands submitted to the National Assembly, the Council of Ministers, and the Minisry of Industry and Technologies have not been satisfied.

Is it possible that the symbolic strike may develop into a real one? This depends upon the new and more demanding requests voiced by the workers, requests concerning the solution of important social issues. The workers demand a wage-scale revision, amendments to the pension system, free outpatient medical treatment, free kindergartens, a regular water supply, and the solution of other social problems.

Environmental Ministry's Activities Criticized

AU2704200490 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian
1730 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Environmental Minister Aleksandur Aleksandrov gave a news conference in Sofia today [27 April]. It was announced that 19 areas exist in Bulgaria where the air is polluted beyond permissible norms. Nearly 9,000 decares of land in the agricultural sector have been declared affected by erosion and nonarable. The same amount of land is expected to be declared as useless soon. Another 540,000 decares polluted by heavy metals should be added to them.

A number of such so-called new facts, which are already well known, were announced at the news conference today and this evokes controversial feelings as regards the activities of the Ministry of the Environment.

The efforts of our environmental administration can also be called contradictory and passive, and it is difficult to say that something new is being accomplished at the ministry, considering that it continues to work in the old manner, despite the critical environmental situation prevailing in our country.

Campaign Standards for Television Examined

AU2704205290 Sofia Domestic Service
in Bulgarian 1900 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Today the Television Presidium, the Bulgarian Television Workers Union, the National Radio and Television Trade Union, the Television Initiative-Movement for a Democratic Television met to discuss the situation at the Television Committee.

With the equal participation of all sides in this meeting, the following decision was adopted:

The sides declare that all actions involving the collection of signatures, the issuing of declarations, ultimatums, and demands for cadre and structural changes will be discontinued during the election campaign period.

The Presidium commits itself to adopting strict measures against all actions likely to violate the supraparty statute of the television, all actions that encourage the organization of strikes, or the application of pressure on the collective that hinders the normal functioning of television work during the election campaign period.

The Presidium and the sides involved will strictly observe the instruction on banning all forms of political activities on the territory of the Bulgarian television stations during the aforementioned period. They will refrain from statements related to the internal, functional, and [word indistinct] activities of television to all mass media, including the television screen. The collective of the Bulgarian Television is urged to devote all its efforts in honorably fulfilling its civic and professional duty toward the whole nation.

Radio, TV Commission Statement on Elections

AU2804205790 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian
1730 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Today the Parliamentary-Public Commission for Television and Radio held an extraordinary session, at which the following statement was adopted.

Little more than a month remains before the elections for a Grand National Assembly. Interest in the television and radio programs has naturally increased and will continue to increase among all strata of the population. Radio and television workers are making efforts to objectively reflect the dynamic social processes in their diversity and variety.

In individual features and programs, both television and radio are also permitting biased assessments. In practice, they do not always manage to convincingly defend their status of national information institutions.

As the elections approach, the social tension in the country is increasing. It is also reflected in the television and radio and leads to impermissible pressure upon their work.

For this reason, the Parliamentary-Public Commission accepts with satisfaction the agreement reached on 27 April 1990 between the Presidium of the Television Commission and the public organizations, which is intended to ensure normal work and interrelations.

Television and radio carry an exceptional responsibility as supraparty institutions at this historic stage in the development of our native land. The Parliamentary-Public Commission reminds all television and radio journalists of the requirements to display impartiality, objectivity, and dissociation from party interests, to depict the social tension, and not to foment it artificially. Only in this way will they assist in creating conditions and possibilities for the Bulgarian people to carry out their sovereign election of a national assembly and a government that will correspond to their views and interests.

Let all of us, parties, movements, state bodies, and public figures, provide the chance for the television and radio workers to worthily fulfill their duty to the nation by ensuring calm in their day-by-day, highly responsible work.

In this preelection period, it is necessary to cease all kinds of appeals and attempts that seek to impose structural and other changes, which are of no help for normal creative labor, the declaration adopted today by the extraordinary session of the Parliamentary-Public Commission for Television and Radio states in conclusion.

Mladenov Receives Fatherland Union Delegation

AU2804201090 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Today President Petur Mladenov received a delegation of the Fatherland Union National Council led by Chairman Ginyo Ganev.

The president was handed a list of 1,366,000 signatures collected on the initiative of the Fatherland Union in support of the appeal for the signing of a document by all Bulgarian political forces. The document binds them not to employ violent means, not to violate the law or citizens' rights, and not to take revenge.

Ginyo Ganev told the president that in the places where the signatures were collected there was no display of political passions, and people with strong political feelings and views voiced their common desire for calm and security.

The president thanked the Fatherland Union and conveyed through the union his thanks to the Bulgarian people for the support given and the efforts made to ensure peace and calm in the country and national reconciliation.

President Greets Chief Mufti on Festival

AU2704180790 Sofia ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME in Bulgarian 25 Apr 90 p 4

[Undated telegram from President Petur Mladenov to Muslim chief Mufti Dr. Khadzhi Nedim Khafuz Ibrakhim Gendzhev]

[Text] Esteemed chief mufti, I send to you, the Muslim priesthood, and our Muslim compatriots most cordial greetings on the occasion of the Ramadan Festival of Bairam.

I wish everyone a joyous festival and fruitful work in the name of national concord and peace between peoples.

Army Daily Attacks New Muslim Newspaper

AU2704124890 Sofia BTA in English 1211 GMT 27 Apr 90

["NARODNA ARMIYA Accuses Mufti"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 27 (BTA)— The MYUSYULMANI [Muslims] newspaper, organ of the chief mufti of the Muslims in Bulgaria, whose first issue came out yesterday [26 April] simultaneously in Bulgarian and Turkish, is a target of verbal assaults by NARODNA ARMIYA daily, organ of the Ministry of National Defence.

Quoting Article 11, Chapter 1 of the Bulgarian Constitution and the National Assembly declaration on the national question, stipulating that Bulgarian is Bulgaria's official language, NARODNA ARMIYA draws the attention of the prosecutor general to the fact that MYUSYULMANI comes out in the Turkish language as well. The National Assembly declaration reads that being an official language, Bulgarian is compulsory for all educational establishments, institutions and organizations, the sphere of services, and official documents. The citizens can use whatever languages they wish in everyday life and person-to-person relationships.

NARODNA ARMIYA also disagrees with the MYUSYULMANI-carried photos of destroyed mosques alone, while the state "is doing its best to support the Islamic religion at a time of an economic crisis. Who is drawing a benefit from this and what is all that supposed to do?" NARODNA ARMIYA asks. "Isn't it the consecutive attempt to seek not unity and pardon, but splits and confrontation," the paper writes in connection with the MYUSYULMANI-raised problem of reparations, of "material damage."

President Attends Orthodox Church Celebration

AU2704120990 Sofia BTA in English 0709 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Sofia, April 27 (BTA)—Founded in 870 AD, the Bulgarian Orthodox Church has its historic contribution to the preservation of national self-identity, to the founding of rich intellectual culture, to the preservation of the native language, moral and traditions in the long years of slavery, it was said last night [26 April] at the celebration of the 1,120th anniversary of the founding of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church and the 120th anniversary of the establishment of the Bulgarian Exarchate.

Petur Mladenov, the country's president, was present at the celebration. [passage omitted]

Mladenov Receives Patriotic Organization Members

AU3004111890 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 27 Apr 90 p 2

[Text] Issues related to the Bulgarian people's history and spiritual memory and the preservation of the national cultural heritage were discussed at a meeting that took place on 26 April between President Petur Mladenov; Petur Konstantinov, chairman of the "Mati Bulgaria" [Mother Bulgaria] All-People's Association; Academician Blagovest Sendov; corresponding member Asen Khadzhiolov; and members of the leadership.

Arms Surrendered; Zhivkov's Grandson Faces Trial

AU2804191990 Sofia BTA in English 1754 GMT 28 Apr 90

["T. Zhivkov's Grandson To Be Tried for Rape (If Found)"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 28 (BTA)—The examining magistrate investigating the case of Todor Slavkov (Todor Zhivkov's grandson and son of IOC-member Ivan Slavkov), [International Olympic Committee] Orlin Nozharov and Zold Haidu (a Hungarian) who were accused of rape handed the case to justice with the opinion that they should be brought before court. This announcement was made at a briefing today that was held at the press centre of the Ministry of the Interior.

On July 10, 1988, Mila Geshevu was raped by Todor Slavkov, Orlin Nozharov and the Hungarian citizen Zold Haidu, the investigating authorities state. The question is open why they were not found guilty when the first investigation was held and who is to be blamed for it. The examining magistrates state that such mistakes are possible with preliminary investigations, while now after the scrutiny of every detail there should be no mistake. Although Todor Slavkov was under age at the time he committed the rape, he is liable before the law. He is supposed to be in Switzerland at the moment, and his accomplice Nozharov in Canada. There is no agreement between the Bulgarian Government and these countries which would made it possible to get the criminals back to Bulgaria for their trial. The situation with Hungary is the same.

It was announced at the briefing that by yesterday 432 weapons and 13,000 ammunitions, all of them illegally possessed, had been handed in, including one machine gun, 17 submachine guns, 73 military rifles, 13 shells and mines, 159 pistols. Already before the address of the National Assembly in which at the beginning of this month it called for returning such weapons and declared amnesty for their possessors, the minister of the interior cancelled all decrees regulating the distribution of weapons among civilians. At present 23 pistols (12 of them in the capital) are still possessed by civilians because they are abroad or are ill. In a week all weapons given to the so-called voluntary workers' detachments have been taken away. There is a list of all weapons in Bulgaria which is updated every year. 2,000 submachine guns possessed by the civil defence organization are conserved. This organization now possesses mainly weapons for training which can do no harm. The security guard of armament warehouses in the country is reinforced.

Journalist Awarded for Lovech Camp Feature

AU2704204590 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] The Bulgarian Journalists Union Council decided to assign only one award this year; namely, an extraordinary award. The winner is Ivan Paskalev, journalist from NARODEN GLAS—the local newspaper in Lovech—for his professional and civil courage in being the first to publish a factual report on the Lovech concentration camp.

It was pointed out at a meeting of the Union Council that journalists from various mass media have recently been increasingly subject to attacks, dismissals, and similar actions and that this fact is a cause for concern by the entire journalists' corps.

The unclear situation in Bulgarian Television and the lack of sufficiently objective information about these circumstances are particularly alarming.

At the meeting, the Union Council entrusted the Bulgarian Journalists Union Secretariat with the task of examining the specific cases in question, with the participation of representatives of the local journalists union, and of adopting measures for the defense of journalists' rights and interests, regardless of their position and party affiliations.

An appeal to all journalists in connection with the election campaign that is already in full swing was adopted.

Meeting of Former Belene Camp Inmates Held

AU3004095690 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 20 Apr 90 p 2

[Report by Nedyalko Atanasov and Blagoy Tsenov: "Meeting at Belene"]

[Text] Those who were invited to take part in the national meeting-pilgrimage organized at the initiative of the Club of Persons Repressed After 1945 and the "Nikola Petkov" Bulgarian Agrarian National Union headed toward Persin Island over the pontoon bridge across the River Danube near Belene. They were former political prisoners with life sentences and inmates who had spent between one month and several years in the prison camp. They recognized each other despite the fact that they had not seen each other for many years. Many embraced and rejoiced at the fact that they had survived, and cannot only meet but also freely express their opinions and convictions. Indeed, this was the purpose of the meeting—a reunion of friends and comrades.

Crime Increase Related to Prison Strikes

AU3004111690 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 27 Apr 90 p 4

[Editorial article: "People Want Law and Order"]

[Text] It really is important to create modern and humane conditions in our prisons, and our newspaper has repeatedly supported this idea. However, this time the events exceeded by far the framework of a normal protest and evoked justifiable concern among the public.

Until recently, the employees of our prisons were frequently accused of being too strict and abrupt. Today it suddenly appears that they are unable to impose elementary discipline and that they are unable to cope with the blackmail of habitual criminals "through political negotiations."

It also appears that so many months after 10 November the investigation bodies still violate the Procedural Code, and, consequently, the prisoners are climbing up onto the roof. It also appears that it is impossible to bring these hardened criminals down from the roof.

It appears that flags of certain parties can be waved from the roof and that the events can be utilized for maliciously planned political election campaigns. It appears that precisely under such conditions our wardens taken the opportunity to threaten with strikes.

It appears that in such an atmosphere murders have increased 30 percent, rapes 45 percent, and breaking-and-entering robberies 58 percent.

The moment has come for the Bulgarian citizens to say: enough. The disbanding of the Sixth Directorate does not mean that the bodies in charge of protecting public order are on unpaid leave. The election campaign should not be conducted at the expense of public order.

In 1953 Beria released the criminals from the camps because he pursued dishonest political goals. Soon afterward they drove the country crazy.

Order and humanity are the two sides of the same medal. Dozens of outrages and cases of cruel physical and intellectual violence against human dignity have taken place in the prisons. The perpetrators are hardened criminals, and the reason has always been related to lack of order and legality.

Order and legality are the business of our legal departments. It is high time that they remember their obligation to the people.

Independent Writers Union Forms in Sofia

AU2704191090 Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 25 Apr 90 p 3

[Text] A Union of Independent Bulgarian Writers was founded on 24 April in the "Brothers Miladinov" Reading Room in Sofia. All authors who have published at least one book are entitled to join the new union, which has been created as an alternative to the existing Bulgarian Writers Union.

The constituent meeting of the Union of Independent Bulgarian Writers adopted the union's statute and elected an Administrative Council and a Control-Auditing Commission.

Vladimir Svintila was elected chairman of the Union of Independent Bulgarian Writers, and he will also act as the union's spokesman.

Havel on Transit of Soviet Jews

LD2704185890 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1800 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] The Czech and Slovak Federative Republic and Israel are preparing to sign an agreement on direct air links between both states, President Vaclav Havel said today [27 April] before his departure from Israel. He went on to say that as far as the transit of Soviet Jews via our Republic is concerned, the Czechoslovak policy proceeds from the principle that everybody has the right to leave one's country and return to it. In the spirit of this idea our authorities are prepared to discuss the possibilities of such a transit.

Vaclav Havel also said Yasir 'Arafat, the leading Palestinian representative, had asked him to convey to the Israeli officials that he was now willing to begin talks with any Israeli representative on the basis of the plan put forward by James Baker, the U.S. secretary of state. Vaclav Havel at the same time added that acting Israeli Premier Shamir had not given him any message for 'Arafat.

Havel, Israel's Arens on Soviet Jews Emigration

LD2804223190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2000 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Our Prague correspondent Evelin Forro, who accompanied President Havel on his trip to Israel, while returning to Czechoslovakia sent an exclusive report for this program. The conversation was recorded back in Israel.

[Begin recording] [Forro] At the end of the Czechoslovak president's three-day visit to Israel, I asked Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens to briefly sum up his opinion of the visit.

[Arens, in English with superimposed Hungarian translation] I consider Vaclav Havel's visit to Israel extraordinarily important. Havel is not merely the president of Czechoslovakia, for us he is the representative of East European democracy, a person who has led his country out of a totalitarian system into democracy.

[Forro] What result did you attain with regard to transporting emigrating Soviet Jews?

[Arens] The Soviet Jews come to Israel through several East European countries, and hopefully Czechoslovakia will also help in this.

[Forro] Still, did you reach a specific agreement?

[Arens] Well, we did not conclude any specific agreement with the airlines, but I think there will be no obstacle to Prague also joining in this process.

[Forro] To President Vaclav Havel I ask this question: Is he not afraid that a similar situation might develop as in the case of Hungary, since several Arab countries have also protested, and in addition MALEV has been threatened?

[Havel, in Czech with superimposed Hungarian translation] We agreed at the discussion that Czechoslovakia wants to help and will help. I know what happened in Hungary's case. At the discussion we took every viewpoint into consideration. No, we are not afraid. We shall fulfill what we have promised. I must also tell you that we have asked Israel for political guarantees that they will not settle the Jews arriving here on the occupied territories. [end recording]

Havel on Israeli Trip, Election Candidacy

LD3004092990

[Editorial Report] Prague Domestic Service in Czech at 1215 GMT on 29 April carries a 30-minute recorded interview with Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel by editor (Ota Nutz) in Prague on the "Conversations in Lany" program.

(Nutz) asks Havel about his impressions of his visit to Israel. Havel notes the great impact the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial had on him. He mentions how he witnessed the current government crisis in Israel and says:

"I was a guest of the Israeli people and it is their concern what kind of government they will have. I am not competent to interfere in internal Israeli matters. I will limit myself in my political assessment to the more general remark that every peace needs some kind of peace talks and a prerequisite of any peace talks is the will of one side to understand the other. It requires certain steps to meet each other half-way, certain concessions, certain compromises. Courage is what is also needed in order to forget something. It seems to me that the policy that they are preparing to follow, Baker's five-point plan, and which is represented by Mr. Peres, has better prospects. And this is a proposal which 'Arafat and the Palestinian movement are also prepared to accept as the basis for opening talks.

"Simply, earlier or later a dialogue between the Palestinians and Jews has to take place. This dialogue will not be easy because there are many Arab states around, some of them have very militant regimes; for instance, Iraq. In various ways they are hostile to each other and feel a kind of Arab unity with the Palestinians, who are again in various ways hostile to each other, even though they are all brothers. This is simply a very complicated issue."

Havel speaks about the incredible mixture of three cultures in Jerusalem and specific characters of the State of Israel: "I became aware of one thing: The State of Israel is something that is difficult to explain. An awareness of centuries of persecution at the diaspora is so alive there, it seems to be a state of spiritual principle. Zionism in its entirety is a spiritual movement, and therefore a UN resolution which states that Zionism is a race is nonsense. It is simply a spiritual movement which is based on the idea of the promised land and takes a totally different historical point of view. It does not matter to them that they were not living there for a hundred, two hundred or a thousand years. They simply feel it is there home. This is a part of that doctrine. They are now there; they feel at home there. They have found their home and escaped from all those places of their diaspora, where in one way or another they suffered from anti-Semitism. It is a state whose principle structure is a bit different from those of the majority of other states."

Havel mentions the congress of Jews of Czech and Slovak origin which he attended in Jerusalem and points out the importance of Milan Knazko's speech there on the guilt of the Tiso regime in Slovakia on the Jews' deportation.

(Nutz) asks Havel about changes in the sphere of culture in Czechoslovakia and Czechoslovak artists' concerns about reduced state subsidies and tax problems. Havel stresses the spiritual importance of culture and says that our state should continue to provide subsidies, although there is a need to use a plurality of sources to finance art and culture, as is true in the West.

In response to a question on the election campaign which is just starting, Havel appeals to citizens to participate in the elections and to properly think through who they are going to vote for. He recalls that he called these elections a rehearsal for free elections. This does not mean he does not consider them free. However, the situation is still developing and only the next elections in two years' time will take place in a situation when political culture will be firmly established. Havel expresses his hope that the elections will provide a good basis for forming an efficient and wise parliament and government.

(Nutz) asks Havel if he will run for president in the elections 40 days after the new parliament is formed. He says that if he is put forward as a candidate he will think it over, and if he considers it necessary, he will run for the post.

Havel concludes by recalling how he used to lay flowers at the Macha statue on May Day and notes that it is a day which has been celebrated for a hundred years by the workers movement.

Vietnamese Students Tell Havel of Clashes, Deaths

LD2804180890 Prague CTK in English 1545 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 28 (CTK)—Vietnamese students studying at the Electrical Engineering College in Plzen, West Bohemia, have sent a letter to President Vaclav Havel asking him to take steps to prevent possible harm to their health and lives.

In the letter, made available to CTK, 20 students wrote about the bloodshed in clashes between Czechs and Vietnamese in several Czech and Moravian cities in recent weeks and added they had learnt of cases of heavy injuries and even deaths. They stated there was increasing tension in coexistence of the two sides.

The students asked President Havel to take steps to solve the situation. They also complained of the media not providing objective reports on the situation.

Havel, Kovac Meet Lane Kirkland

LD2904153390 Prague CTK in English 1330 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 29 (CTK)—The work of Czechoslovak trade unions since November 1989 was appreciated by President of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) Lane Kirkland during his one-hour meeting with President Vaclav Havel of Czechoslovakia today [29 April].

Kirkland, visiting Czechoslovakia since Thursday [26 April] within a tour of Central European countries which has already taken him to Poland and Hungary, informed the president of the situation in the trade unions in the two countries.

Referring to Czechoslovak trade unions he said he believed the Czechoslovak confederation of trade unions may be able to compete with the strongest trade union federations in the West in the near future. Ways of how Czechoslovak unions will cope with the upcoming economic reform were also discussed.

Lane Kirkland and the U.S. delegation were informed in Bratislava yesterday by Slovak Premier Milan Cic of the changes that have taken place in Slovakia in the past few months. The two sides discussed possibilities of cooperation between Czechoslovak and American trade unions.

Chairman of the Confederation of Slovak Trade Unions Roman Kovac informed the U.S. delegation of the conditions in which Slovak unions were formed and aspects in which they differed from the trade unions in the Czech Republic.

Sweden's Schori, Havel View Regional Cooperation

PM2704132190 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 25 Apr 90 p 8

[Peter Jansson report: "European Cooperation on the Agenda for Schori in Prague"]

[Text] During his visit to Czechoslovakia, Pierre Schori, Foreign Ministry under secretary of state, yesterday held talks with President Vaclav Havel. They discussed the Czechoslovaks' proposal for new European cooperation, a European security commission, and Lithuania.

"We discussed among other things Havel's plans for new regional cooperation in Europe, cooperation stretching from the Adriatic to Scandinavia," Pierre Schori told DAGENS NYHETER. "There is already the so-called

Adria Donau cooperation between Yugoslavia, Italy, Austria, Hungary, and Czechoslavakia. Vaclav Havel has also taken the initiative for increased cooperation between the reformist states in East Europe: Hungary, Poland, and Czechoslovakia. Havel has now suggested extending the Adria Donau cooperation to the Baltic republics, Scandinavia, and Poland.

"The aim is to find new structures for cooperation, not as an alternative to the EC, the European Free Trade Association, or NATO. The cooperation could, for example, cover communications in the widest sense and trade," Pierre Schori said.

"This is an interesting discussion. Not a concrete alternative to what we are engaged in today, but a possible future, and we are glad to take part in the discussions," Pierre Schori explained.

The talks also covered the Czechoslovaks' proposal for a European security commission with regular meetings at foreign minister level to settle disarmament, for example.

"This is a valuable and constructive idea which is reminiscent of Olof Palme's idea of joint security," Pierre Schori.

"I responded that we are in favor of creating a system of joint security within the CSCE framework. It could be a good idea to have periodic meetings at the foreign minister level, and it is important now to clarify what institutions would be needed for this."

Naturally, Lithuania was also discussed at the meeting—and Vaclav Havel and Pierre Schori both think that Lithuania could be a test for the new democratic Europe.

"We take a common view of Lithuania. It is incredibly important that the Lithuanian question be resolved peacefully and not by the use of force.

"Our sympathies lie with Lithuania, we support its endeavors to achieve independence, and think that it is important for both sides to realize that Lithuania is part of a broader European context," Pierre Schori said.

He also said that he discussed with Vaclav Havel various sorts of cooperation between Sweden and Czechoslovakia. However, he was unwilling to go into what sort of cooperation this would be before he has discussed these things at home.

The Czechoslovak president expressed his thanks for the Swedish support for the opposition during the Charter 77 period. He also expressed a desire to visit Sweden, and Pierre Schori said that a visit will take place in the fall.

Yesterday Schori also met with Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier and Deputy Foreign Minister Zdenek Matejka.

Today Under Secretary of State Schori will continue his visit to the Czechoslovak capital by meeting representatives of some of the country's political parties. He will also open an information and culture conference for all Swedish ambassadors in Eastern Europe.

Minister Discusses Temelin Construction in Moscow

AU2704184790 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 26 Apr 90 p 7

[CTK report: "Temelin Faster"]

[Text] Moscow—The construction of the Temelin nuclear power plant was the main topic of the negotiations held in Moscow attended by Jaroslav Suva, CSFR minister of fuels and power. In his talks with Jevgeniy Resetnikov, USSR deputy minister of nuclear energy and industry, it was agreed that the Soviet side will accelerate preparations for this project.

Dienstbier, GDR Official Discuss Unification

LD2804180990 Prague CTK in English 1546 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 28 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier met East German Secretary of State at the Foreign Ministry Hans-Juergen Misselwitz here today to exchange information about their government's stands on German unification. The two officials discussed the all-European integration process and related political and security questions.

New Border Crossings With FRG, Austria

AU2704200990 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 26 Apr 90 p 5

["(ZAV)"-signed report: "New Border Crossings"]

[Text] Prague (From our correspondent)—This year, an exceptional tourist season is ahead of us. In the so-called "non-tourist" months—January to March— over 20 million tourists have already visited our country.

This figure is 98 percent higher than last year's first quarter. Interest in traveling to the Czech and Slovak Federative Republic increased by 700 percent in the case of Austrians and by 217 percent in the case of FRG citizens. More tourists are also coming from Poland, Hungary, and the USSR. On Wednesday [25 April], journalists were told by the representative of the Central Customs Administration that during customs inspections, the most important thing is to protect our internal market. The time needed for this inspection is secondary. The customs officers have the full support of the CSFR Government in this matter.

As of 1 July, six new crossings will open between the CSFR and the FRG: As-Selb, Svaty Kriz-Mahring, Tachov-Barnau, Liskova- Waldmunchen, Vseruby-Eschlkam, and Stozec-Haidmuhle. They will be open daily from 0900 to 2100 for pedestrians and small bicycles only and for our and FRG citizens.

As of the same date, operation of the Postorna-Reinthal crossing will begin at the CSFR-Austria border. Again, it is designed for the personal transport of citizens of both countries only, and so is the Vranetin-Drosendorf crossing, which will open 1 September.

Czech Premier Pithart on Cooperation With Poland

LD2804212690 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 28 Apr 90

["Highlights" of interview with Czech Premier Petr Pithart by Czechoslovak Television reporters Petr Lukes and Jiri Otava in Wroclaw on 28 April; correspondents not individually identified—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Mr. Premier, during your talks you discussed a whole series of problems. Which of these problems do you think needs to be dealt with immediatley and which can wait a while?

[Pithart] Well, I would like to be more specific: The fact that we discussed them does not mean that we resolved these matters. We broached a number of problems, and in fact the Polish side was rather better prepared for the meeting, not because we did not want to prepare ourselves, but simply because we have not yet gone as far. What has been happening in our country has been going on for only a few months, but in Poland the dramatic development has been going on for a number of years—10 years—so in a number of respects they have gone a lot farther than we have. They have things better thought out, and in certain matters we can only make notes because so far we have been unable to react.

[Reporter] Mr Premier, I have another question. In the talks there were often very specific cooperation proposals. What will be your reply?

[Pithart] In a number of cases, I was only able to promise that I would convey their ideas and wishes in a precise way. At the same time, I think that, to be frank, the Czechoslovak side is not, nor can it be, prepared for such specific cooperation. We would be happier if it were a matter of cooperation between regions of northeast Bohemia and Silesia. I do not think that at the moment such a region is taking shape (?from our) side, so everything is once again aimed at Prague. It is unfortunate that people cannot communicate directly—universities directly between themselves, rectors, businessmen between themselves. Everything is done through Prague, and in that respect there are an enormous number of absurd obstacles which have to be overcome and which are preventing us from making much more progress than that made to date.

Border Contacts Theme of Pithart Polish Talks

LD2904043690 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1930 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] The communique on the visit by Czech Premier Petr Pithart to Poland states that the main theme of his talks with Polish representatives was current Czech-Polish relations, in particular small cross-border contacts. According to the communique, both the Czech and Polish partners are aware of the obstacles to such contacts, in particular on the Czech side. This problem has a much deeper significance for the Polish public than the Czech public realizes. Its speedy resolution will have a decisive influence on the shaping of future relations between both nations. For this reason it is vital for this problem to be solved as soon as possible, and it will be useful it this takes place by way of gradual, partial steps.

Slovak Independence Meeting in Bratislava 27 Apr

LD2704181190 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Approximately 5,000 people took part in a meeting organized by the National Council for the Liberation of Slovakia [Narodni Rada pro Osvobozeni Slovenska] in the center of Bratislava this afternoon [27 April]. Representatives of the movement delivered its program, the main point being the declaration of an independent Slovak state. Speeches were also made about the economic situation in the Federation, which, in the view of movement members, is unfavorable to Slovakia, and about the ethnic genesis in the Slovaks' ancient statehood. The meeting's participants were also informed about the text of a memorandum in which the National Council for the Liberation of Slovakia has called for the holding of a popular referendum on Slovak independence.

Calfa on Slovak Initiative's Candidate List

AU2704183290 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 26 Apr 90 p 1

["(EDK)"-signed report: "M. Calfa Will Be a Public Against Violence Movement Candidate"]

[Text] Kosice (From our own correspondent)—Marian Calfa, the federal premier, is the number one candidate on the Public Against Violence movement's electoral list in East Slovakia. This was announced on Wednesday [25 April] by VYCHOD [EAST], the East Slovak national committees' daily.

Calfa Continues Visit to E. Slovakia

LD2704220790 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1630 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Federal Premier Marian Calfa, on the second day of his working visit to the East Slovak region, was aquainted with the working and social conditions of staff at the Cierna nad Tisou railway transloading station.

During his talks, and on the loading ramps themselves, he was told about the problems that bother railway workers the most—the low level of mechanization, the unsatisfactory situation with respect to the packaging of imported minerals, and inadequate social provisions. Premier Calfa praised the efforts of the Cierna railway workers to progress and to develop their enterprise under the new conditions.

Premier Calfa subsequently visited the village of Trhoviste in Michalovce district and toured Trebisov, meeting with representatives of the town and the Public Against Violence. [passage omitted]

Slovak Deputies Discuss Private Enterprise

LD2704221490 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1500 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Deputies of the Slovak National Council [SNC] today [27 April] discussed and approved a government-sponsored SNC bill on private enterprise carried out by citizens, which was presented by Vladimir Meciar, [Slovak] minister of the interior. He stressed that the aim of the bill is to provide for the development of our national economy by tapping the abilities and possibilities of private individuals.

The SNC deputies also discussed and passed a government- sponsored bill on the work of the national committees in implementing certain provisions of the law on letting and subletting nonresidential premises. As Minister Vladimir Meciar stressed, subjectivity, personal influence, or the authority of the applicant often held sway in practice in the existing system of allotting nonresidential premises.

The agenda of today's 26th meeting also included an SNC bill on the work of bodies in the Slovak Republic in social security, and a government-sponsored bill on the legal system. After a debate in which the deputies supported the SNC bill, the bill was passed.

Then, in a secret ballot, the chairman of two newly established SNC committees were elected: Frantisek Miklosko, who has no party affiliation, was elected chairman of the SNC committee for nationalities; and Boris Zala of the Social Democratic Party was elected chairman of the SNC Security Committee. Further in the SNC proceedings, the members of the Slovak government replied to questions from deputies.

Slovak Premier Cic on Economic Future, Measures

LD2804222190 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1930 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Slovak Premier Milan Cic analyzed during his regular Saturday television commentary feature the issues of our future. He paid attention to the economy and its influence on the daily life of the people. When he spoke about employment, he said that workers will have a minimal wage tariff guaranteed and their employers will not be allowed to pay them anything below that level. He said that at least three equal partners will decide about the movement of wages: the government, the trade unions, and the representatives of the employers.

Premier Milan Cic also spoke about the issues of reduced subsidies. We have been subsidizing foodstuffs by almost 50 millard korunas, while at the same time we have been disproportionately taxing industrial goods. I understand in human terms, said Milan Cic, that a big family can manage easier without a color television set, a car, or a computer. It needs, however, bread, milk, and meat daily. I would like to stress, he went on to say, that we do not envisage these changes coming into force immediately. In the near future, the only increase will be in the price of cigarettes by 25 percent. With regard to the increase of fares, the Slovak premier said that first it is necessary to analyze its consequences and consider whether employers are able to and should contribute to the transport of their employees. He underscored that this is a process planned to take place over two to three years.

At the end of his television appearance, Milan Cic appealed to the population to be understanding and asked for mutual understanding in order to stabilize the economic situation as soon as possible and to prevent pensioners and families with smaller incomes finding themselves in a difficult situation.

Slovak Premier Explains Price Increases

LD2704222790 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1630 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Excerpts] [Announcer] It is said that hunger is a bad adviser, and a particularly bad adviser is the hunger for information that appeared in connection with the expected increase of prices of some products. Slovak National Council [SNC] deputies also discussed this topic today. Let us report things in order. Editor Alica Bielikova reports:

[Bielikova] [passage omitted] The longest part of today's session consisted of questions from the deputies to the members of the government and their replies and by a discussion about the most urgent problems. Almost 30 deputies asked questions about the solution of the problem of the Gabcikovo water project, ethical education in corrective education units, demands to abolish the abortion law, consequences of the breakdown of the Chernobyl nuclear power station for the inhabitants of Poprad district, comprehensive housing construction, education, and so on.

Jan Budaj, SNC deputy chairman, spoke about the working and social conditions of the people in the chemical works in Slovakia and asked whether it would be possible to prevent the rumors and panic spread in connection with the increase of prices by providing serious and timely information to the general public. Slovak Premier Milan Cic answered the most weighty questions about the economic and social situation in Slovakia. He also spoke about the changes in prices and said, among other things:

[Begin Cic recording] The issue of prices is important because I learned first thing this morning about rather a great agitation in connection with the prices increase. Material was put forward to the federal government yesterday concerning prices and whether to increase or decrease them. It concerned the increase in the price of cigarettes, the issue of alcoholic drinks, and the increase in fares for both railways and the Czechoslovak Coach and Bus Company. A long discussion in connection with this issue followed. However, there was no reason for discussion with regard to the reduction of the prices as electrical products are very expensive anyhow, and therefore there was nothing to discuss—their reduction is only to be welcomed.

With regard to increases, the majority and, at the end, all of us thought that it cannot be done at present. It cannot be done as there is an enormous amount of other considerations. We cannot increase prices only because things are being bought up, and we have to get it all to certain proportions without considering, above all, those social strata which we describe as weak. A minister or a premier cannot be taken as a standard. A standard must be a pensioner or others—workers, and so on, who have average earnings or slightly above average earnings. We have therefore concluded this issue by saying that all these matters must be thought through to the end, that we have to think further about compensation for the increase in these prices. This, however, cannot be done in a week or a month. It must, however, be said very openly that this is not passing the buck. The increase in prices must be inevitably expected, although not in this period because these issues are not yet prepared. They must be comprehensively dealt with in such a way that certain social guarantees are made to our people. Therefore, with regard to the scare—well it can have an impact only on smokers but, allegedly, it is in the interest of their health.

I agree with what Mr Budaj has said. We spoke about it yesterday, too. These things perhaps ought to be discussed by the public. It was not our intention to change the prices from day to day. It was intended and it is intended, whether with regard to the increase or reduction in prices, that it will take several weeks. Naturally, the policy must be open, people must be told what our situation is and if no profit is made, if there are inflation pressures; if production goes downhill and the wages go up, then naturally the situation will not improve. [end recording]

The endorsing part of the 26th meeting opened with a discussion of the Slovak parliament's governmental bill on some provisions in connection with the law on citizens' private enterprise. Then it was the government-sponsored bill on the work of the national committee in implementing the law on letting and subletting nonresidential premises, then bills of laws on the activity of the bodies of the Slovak Republic in social security and about legal profession. We have informed you about the discussion on them during the day. Deputies passed these and other bills.

After the end of the 26th meeting of the SNC, its presidium convened and promulgated the law on some provisions in connection with the law on citizens' private enterprise as well as the SNC law on the work of national committees in implementing certain provisions of the law on letting and subletting nonresidential premises. The SMC Presidium also promulated the law amending the SNC law on the authority of the social security bodies of the Slovak Republic, as well as the law on legal profession and a law amending the SNC law on the order of procedure.

Slovak Defense Council Created

LD2804191290 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1630 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] State Defense Council Chairman Marian Calfa has appointed the Slovak Defense Council, composed of Chairman Milan Cic, Deputy Chairman Vladimir Lexa, and members Jozef Markus, Vladimir Meciar and Major General Imrich Andrejcak.

The newly appointed Slovak Defense Council [Rada Obrany Slovenskej Republiky] assessed at its first session on 28 April defense preparations in Slovakia. It noted that these tasks concern society as a whole and must be approached very seriously, within the context of valid laws.

Parliament-Approved Tax Law Amendments Explained

AU3004140690 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 26 Apr 90 p 3

["ek"-signed report: "On the New Laws: Taxation Amendments Concern Entrepreneurs"]

[Text] Last week, the Federal Assembly of the Czech and Slovak Federative Republic passed three tax laws. The gist of them was explained to us by Engineer Jozef Trojak, section chief at the Ministry of Finance, Prices, and Wages of the Slovak Republic:

The adoption of tax amendments by the Federal Assembly is connected with the creation of conditions for the entrepreneurial activity of individuals. The essence of the Law on the Corporate Tax [zakon o dochodkovej dani] can be described as follows: If an individual, operating as an entrepreneur, is entered in the company register (for which he must meet the following conditions—taxable income from his entrepreneurial activity exceeding the sum of 540,000 korunas or he must employ more than 25 people)—he becomes a corporate taxpayer, and by becoming this, the same conditions become imposed on him as for others engaged in similar activities. The amendment at the same time extends the system of tax allowances to include services rendered to the public by individuals involved in business operations according to the law on private enterprise. The amendment includes a provision whereby the more advantageous 40-percent tax rate is applied only to those subjects where foreign stake in the basic capital stock does not exceed 30 percent. The aim of this provision is to create more equitable conditions for entrepreneurial activity. Moreover, the amendment abolishes the exemption from taxation which political parties and movements and their enterprises and economic facilities have enjoyed to date. The exemption of mass organizations from taxation will be abolished only as of 1 January 1991.

The basic principle of the changes in the Law on the Turnover Tax [zakon o dani z obratu] is the widening of the circle of those subject to the payment of this tax with the inclusion of, above all, physical persons entered in the company register and subjects based abroad which are involved in economic activity in the Czech and Slovak Federative Republic. The amendment also defines with greater precision what is subject to the payment of turnover tax. It states expressly that goods sold abroad and imports of noncommercial goods are not subject to the payment of turnover tax. The latter is subject to noncommercial duty (this concerns, for example, articles imported by tourists). On the other hand, goods sold on our territory for foreign currencies are subject to this tax. In this case, the sale is converted at the appropriate rate of exchange and subjected to the turnover tax tariff. The law also introduces uniform penalties for delays in surrendering the turnover tax; the penalties will be the same as those imposed according to other laws regulating obligations toward the state budget. In the event of failure to surrender the complete turnover tax, the penalty exceeds by 20 percent the difference between the due and actual payment of the tax to the state budget. This provision is aimed at introducing greater discipline in this sphere.

The amendment of the law on the agricultural tax involves only the deletion of certain provisions which will form part of the law on the income tax [zakon o dani z prijmov], which is now being prepared.

'Racial Overtones' in Gypsies, 'Skinheads' Clashes

LD2704211390 Prague Television Service in Czech 1730 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Deputy Federal Premier Jan Carnogurskiy granted an interview to Czechoslovak television today expressing a viewpoint on the tension between the gypsies and followers of the punk and skinhead movements:

[Begin Carnogurskiy recording] The media, as well as information channels of the Ministry of the Interior, have reported on clashes in some towns in the North Bohemian region between gypsies and groups of young people, half of whom had shaved heads and half of whom had unshaved but completely confused heads. According to reports received by the central government, aggression is demonstrated, above all, by the skinheads. They bear the larger share of blame. Clashes between the two groups often reach such a pitch that the local police forces are incapable of putting them down, and gypsies gather together to defend themselves.

The attacks by skinheads so far prove that their aggression against the Gypsies has racial overtones and, for this reason, skinheads do not deserve the leniency of state organs. The behavior of skinheads evokes, at the very least, a well-founded suspicion—to use a term from the criminal code—that they are committing criminal activity and even intend to continue it.

The government has reinforced the forces of law and order in North Bohemia, but that is only a passive measure. The prosecution, as well as the courts, which are in charge of criminal proceedings, are not subordinated to the government. The prosecution will have to consider the opening of criminal proceedings against those who attack the gypsies, particularly if these attacks continue. In such a case, a reason could be given for detention so as to prevent the continuation of criminal activity. I imagine that the prosecution would thus contribute toward improving the situation in the North Bohemian region.

The basic role of every government is to preserve the internal order of the state. The government of national understanding must fulfill this role even at the cost of not achieving understanding with everybody. [end recording]

Survey of Popularity Enjoyed by CSFR Politicians

AU2704193190 Prague PRACE in Czech 25 Apr 90 p 2

["r"-signed report: "Trust (and Verify)"]

[Text] Prague— Yesterday the "court" supplier of information regarding the water level of the fish pond called "public opinion"—the Institute of Public Opinion Research—delivered to us the results of another of its surveys. This time it concerned citizens' trust or mistrust in individual personalities in our political life.

The survey shows that at the end of March and the beginning of April this year, most people—51 percent—trusted Vaclav Havel, president of the Czech and Slovak Federative Republic; at a substantial distance followed Marian Calfa, federal premier (10 percent), Minister Vaclav Klaus (10 percent), and others. Of course, the institute also published "the reverse" ranking. According to it, at the end of the first quarter of this year, Vasil Mohorita, the first secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee, was least trusted by the people (14 percent). The above survey also contained long-term comparisons (since last November) of fluctuations on the "trust" scale. Most stable is, in this respect, our head of state. On the other hand, Valtr Komarek—whose popularity had fallen from 22 percent at the end of November to three percent at the beginning of April—recorded the greatest losses.

Public Against Violence Presents Election Platform

LD2704204990 Prague CTK in English 1725 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Bratislava April 27 (CTK)—Building of a stabilized economic base within five years is one of the goals set by the pre- election program of the Public Against Violence movement in Slovakia which was made public here today.

Another aim of the program called "Chance for Slovakia" is reaching the level of advanced democratic European states by the year 2000.

The Public Against Violence will be represented in the parliamentary June 8-9 elections by experts and scientific workers, as well as people at lower levels of the movement.

Public Against Violence Meets in Slovakia

LD2804192290 Prague CTK in English 1622 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Martin, Central Slovakia, April 28 (CTK)—An election program and a list of candidates were the main items on the agenda of today's fifth Slovak congress of the Public against Violence (PAV) movement here.

The Public against Violence is the Slovak sister movement of the Civic Forum in the Czech republic, comprising opponents of the former communist regime who stood at the head of democratic changes in this country.

The congress deliberations made it clear that the natural decline in sympathies with the Public against Violence is due to the growing pluralism in society and due to its determination to take over responsibility for engaging in situations requiring settlement of unpopular personnel changes. This decline has stopped.

Broadcasting Plans During Election Campaign

LD2704215990 Prague CTK in English 2006 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 27 (CTK)—"Czechoslovak television must contribute through its news service and other programs to objective information of the Czechoslovak public on the events connected with the course of the election campaign," director of the Czechoslovak teleision Jiri Kanturek said in his televised speech tonight.

The television news service must be above all based on impartial comments and if necessary criticism of pre-election activities, Jiri Kanturek underlined.

He pointed out that the forty-day election campaign will be launched already this Sunday, adding that such an extent of the election struggle broadcast on television (four hours of transmission for each of the 23 parties running for the elections) will hardly be found in television broadcasting of any advanced democratic countries.

Each of the parties will have one thirty-minute, eight ten-minue, twelve five-minute and 71 one-minute shots at their disposal to present its program.

Regular transmission of these programs will start according to an agreement with the political parties on May 2, Jiri Kanturek stated.

Television Election Broadcasts Detailed

LD2804074690 Prague Television Service in Czech 1800 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Speech by Czechoslovak Television Director-General Jiri Kanturek; place and date not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] In order to apply the principle of equality for the candidate political parties in the fair distribution of airtime, the political parties and coalitions have agreed on the equal duration of contributions they are preparing for their TV election campaign. Over the 40-day campaign, each of the political parties will have one 30-minute, eight 10-minute and twelve 5-minute broadcasts, and seventy [as heard] 1-minute flashes. These programs will be in a special block of election broadcasts called Volby 90 [Elections 90], early in the evening on weekdays, that is from 1650 to 1925 [1450-1725 GMT], with the exception of the regular times allotted to the Minuty One [News Headlines, 1500-1510 GMT] and Vecernicek program for children [1700-1710 GMT]. On nonworking days, additional slots have been allotted from 1200 to 1330 [1000-1130 GMT] and the parties running only in Slovakia, which are more numerous than those running only in the Czech lands, will also have certain additional slots. In principle, the parties running federally will always have their broadcasts shown on the Czechoslovak national network, and for the broadcasts of parties running in only the Czech or the Slovak Republics, transmissions will always split into the Czech and Slovak networks. By agreement with the political parties, the regular transmission of these programs on CSTV will begin on 2 May. [passage omitted]

Charter Representatives Implicated in Criminal Acts

AU2704173190 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 25 Apr 90 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Doubts?"]

[Text] Petr Uhl, Vaclav Benda, and a number of other names appear in the investigation document of a case which could seriously compromise Charter 77 signatories. The document, containing approximately 10,000 pages, concerns a series of fires which, in recent years, were deliberately set in SEPAP [North Bohemian Paper Works] Steti, AGROZET Roudnice nad Labem, and in the Melnik sugar refinery by a gang of criminals who acknowledged fascism. The gang called itself Wehrwolf. As Ludvik Brunner, the regional prosecutor in Usti nad Labem, stated yesterday, the investigation document is now being studied by the regional court. There are justified doubts pertaining to the previous investigation.

Dr. Brunner allowed a CTK reporter to examine one of the documents. According to the document, at the beginning of last year, Vaclav Zajicek, head of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia [CPCZ] Central Committee security policy department, handed Rudolf Hegenbart, head of the CPCZ Central Committee's 13th department, a written proposal for the elimination of the political opposition. The issue involved discrediting the representatives of independent initiatives by stating their alleged contacts with a select circle of criminally defective people. In no time at all, one of the accused in the fires case gave an account of his contacts with representatives of Charter 77 and VONS [Committee for the Defense of the Unjustly Persecuted]....

Presidential Adviser on Sacher Controversy

AU2704180390 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 25 Apr 90 p 4

[Interview with presidential adviser Jiri Krizan by Jan Dobrovsky and Vladimir Mlynar; place and date not given—"I Was Unable To Refuse"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [LIDOVE NOVINY] The two most important sections within your purview are the Interior Ministry and the Defense Ministry. What do you think of the work being carried out by these ministries?

[Krizan] I will start with the most contentious one—the Interior Ministry. First and foremost, the problem is the situation in relation to the press and information in general. Minister Sacher has been criticized and journalists are dissatisfied. This is because various reports are being leaked—something is being prepared here and something is being done there—and everyone wants to know whether or not this is the truth and what is being done about it. At the same time, acquiring information from an investigation can often compromise its outcome. In my opinion, Mr. Sacher is just the man for his job, and I do not know of anyone who could replace him. Unfortunately, the State Security has had sufficient time to destroy—or at least to cover up—a number of materials, to become dispersed, and to conceal itself in a number of ways. It was a state within a state; in fact, it was the only truly functioning structure in the old regime. Even its most senior chiefs, Jakes or Gottwald, did not know exactly how the State Security operated. Revealing and breaking up its system is impossible without those who were involved in it.

[LIDOVE NOVINY] Recently a lot of speculation has been generated by the changes in the Interior Ministry. Are you confident that Mr. Sacher's ministry will not be misused, for example, in the preelection campaign?

[Krizan] I am absolutely sure. I consider all the obscure, but obvious, accusations that Mr. Sacher is abusing his position in favor of the party of which he is a member to be totally absurd and groundless. The minister's character, morals, and integrity guarantee that this is something absolutely out of the question. Mr. Sacher is a person who is concerned, first and foremost, about the business at hand, and only then about party or personal interests. [passage omitted]

Civic Forum, People's Party View Interior Ministry

LD2704141490 Prague CTK in English 1250 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 27 (CTK)—Representatives of the Civic Forum Coordinating Committee Jan Urban and Petr Kucera met here Thursday [26 April] with representatives of the Czechoslovak People's Party Josef Bartonick, Bohumil Svoboda and Jiri Cerny for talks on topical questions of the political situation in Czechoslovakia, the Civic Forum Coordinating Centre announced today.

"After the mutual exchange of views, they agreed inter alia that the debate of the concept of the Federal Ministry of the Interior does not mean a dispute between the two political groupings. In the interest of strengthening the unity of democratic forces, the two sides are ready to continue mutual consultations", the press release said, without specifying the results of this settlement of the disputes concerning the activity of Czechoslovak Minister of the Interior Richard Sacher, a functionary of the Czechoslovak People's Party.

Socialist Party Leader Rules Out CPCZ Ties

LD2704164990 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1330 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Jiri Vyvadil, chairman of the Czechoslovak Socialist Party, emphasized at a news conference in Prague on 27 April the need to observe a high moral standard of behavior in the preelection struggle.

He confirmed that the Socialist Party wants to cooperate with all parties and movements, with the exception of the Czechoslovakia Communist Party, to secure democratic development after the elecitons.

When asked about vagueness in connection with the federal minister of interior position and Minister Richard Sacher himself, Jiri Vyvadil said that this was the case of a deliberate supression of the representatives of the other democratic parties. "We do not share the view that Mr Sacher was recalled from office because the evidence of the situation on the ministry is put forward by people whom we do not trust," Jiri Vyvadil said.

Democratic Initiative Statement on CPCZ

LD2804230290 Prague Television Service in Czech 1730 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] At a news conference of the Czechoslovak Democratic Initiative, we have been acquainted with a statement from which we quote: A party linked with a monopoly of power cannot be a part of the creation of democratic free development. Freedom, however, presupposes basic tolerance. The demanded immediate ban of the Czechoslovakia Communist Party would substantially reduce the freedom of the coming elections and would interfere with the sphere of legal responsibility.

It was also said at the news conference that Czechoslovak Democratic Initiative wants to be in a coalition with the Civic Forum until parliamentary elections.

Democratic Initiative Leaders News Conference

LD2804134890 Prague CTK in English 1145 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 28 (CTK)—The Czechoslovak Democratic Initiative, a liberal democratic political party active as an independent part of the Civic Forum, said in a statement today that the Communist Parlty cannot participate in shaping democratic and free development.

A statement of the party given journalists at a press conference here today said that "the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, linked with the power monopoly through its name and its leading officials, cannot participate in shaping democratic, free development. This conclusion should be applied against the Communist Party immediately, from the point of view of the power positions and ideologically".

The statement also said that the present nationality conflicts, nervousness and social tension in Czechoslovakia can by no means be underestimated. "Thus effects of the decision to call parliamentary elections so late manifest themselves to the full extent", the statement said. (Parliamentary elections will take place on June 8- 9).

Characterizing the Czechoslovak Democratic Initiative as a right- centre party, its Vice-Chairman Bohumil Dolezal stated that it has 3,600 members, is active in the Czech republic but also has some members in Slovakia. It will participate in the June elections in a coalition with the Civic Forum, the political movement of opponents of the communist regime which stood at the head of democratic changes. Fifteen Czechoslovak Democratic Initiative members will contest seats in the Federal Assembly and the Czech National Council (parliament). The party would like to act independently in the autumn local elections. As regards its members, intellectuals prevail but also workers and businessmen are represented. On the initiative of the party a symposium will be held in Prague on May 27-28 about cooperation in the management of small and medium businesses, with businessmen from the Federal Republic of Germany taking part.

Culture Minister Holds News Conference

LD2804165490 Prague CTK in English 1435 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 28 (CTK)—"As far as my resignation is concerned, I have to turn to more competent people with cooler heads, to advise me if I am to do so before the elections," said Czech Culture Minister Milan Lukes at a press conference here today.

This comes in reaction to the view of the Council for the Protection of Culture. The approval of new laws on social security and on non-residential premises has seen an outcry among artists which is motivated, above all, by the fear of their own uncertain future. The Council for the Protection of Culture has voiced its lack of confidence in the Czech Ministry of Culture and has requested that the minister and all discredited employees resign.

Even before this Minister Milan Lukas wrote an open letter to Czechoslovak Premier Marian Calfa in which he drew attention to the fact that during the discussion of these laws, the comments from the cultural department were not brought into question. He elevated the need for mutual cooperation and the fact that his ministry be called to attend meetings and negotiations in future which intrinsically concern cultural problems.

At the press conference the culture minister further stated that he doubted whether the Council really represents all artists in the cultural sphere. Its view is of a confrontational character and an ultimatum. It does not offer room for dialogue and there is nothing he could do to alter the air of mistrust, concluded Czech Culture Minister Milan Lukes.

New State Name Causes Grammatical Problems

AU2704184890 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 26 Apr 90 p 3

[CTK report: "Apropos the CSFR's Name"]

[Text] Bratislava—In case there are any doubts about the method of correctly writing our federative republic's new official name, the L. Stur Linguistic Institute at the Slovak Academy of Sciences has issued the following explanation:

The new name approved by the Federal Assembly on 20 April 1990 is the Czech and Slovak Federative Republic in its written form. The decision to write the words federative and republic with a capital F and a capital R was a political one and, from the point of view of the orthographic principles applicable in Slovak, it is necessary to consider this to be an exception. The states' other names are not affected by this decision. The abbreviation of the republic's new name is CSFR. The unofficial name of our republic is written with a hyphen between the first and second elements and the second element is written with a capital S: Czecho-Slovakia [Cesko-Slovensko]. Only the second element of this name is declined; for example, to Czecho-Slovakia [do Cesko-Slovenska] or about Czecho-Slovakia [o Cesko-Slovensku]. The adjective "Czecho-Slovak" is also written with a hyphen between the first and second elements (for example, Czecho-Slovak Airlines). This method is also applicable in writing complicated names such as Czecho-Slovak-Austrian, Czecho-Slovak- Polish, and so on. The adjective "Czecho-Slovak" can be abbreviated to CS.

Havel Speaks at Prague Rally To Rename Streets

LD2904212890 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Speech by President Vaclav Havel at rally celebrating the renaming of Prague streets at Palacky Square in Prague on 29 April]

[Text] Palacky Square in Prague was crowded today with citizens gathered to witness the renaming of Prague streets, squares, and other locations in our capital. Mayor of Prague Jaroslav Koran announced all the names which were changed. Let us give at least some examples: The First of May Bridge will be called the Bridge of Legions, Lenin Street will become Dr. Edvard Renes Street, and Bedrich Engels Embankment is, beginning today, Dr. Alois Rasin Embankment. A plaque bearing the name of this important Czech politician, the minister of finance in the first Czechoslovak Government, already hangs on the house where Vaclav Havel, president of the republic lives. The president delivered a short speech at today's rally.

[Begin Havel recording] Dear friends, I will attempt to say in a few impromptu words what, in my view, is the purpose of today's rally. First, it seems to me that by this rally we want to show to ourselves that it is not irrelevant what things are called, that words matter, that names matter. As a citizen, it matters to me if I live on the embankment named after Friedrich Engels, a rather unimportant philosopher of the last century, or on Alois Rasin Embankment—named after the man whose merits in building this state equal those of Tomas Garrigue Masaryk, Milan Rastislav Stefanik, Eduard Benes, and Karel Kramar. I admit that it matters to me. It matters to the citizens of Zlin if they live in Zlin or in Gottwaldow. And I think it is right that it matters to them. This is probably the first reason for our rally. The streets could have been renamed quietly. We did not need to organize a special rally on this occasion.

The second reason is clear. We wanted to remember the personality of Alois Rasin, the man about whom the majority of you perhaps knows nothing because his name was for so long erased from textbooks and books.

The third reason why we organized this rally here and why we attend it is probably because we also want to remember 28 October and its atmosphere. It seems to me that this moment of remembrance—though it is not 28 October yet and there is no anniversary today—is rather good for our general well-being.

This leads to the fourth and last purpose which this rally has in my view—its informal and impromptu character will remind us of those big rallies which led to the fall of totalitarian power in Czechoslovakia. And perhaps by this it will remind us today—on the first or second day of the election campaign—about something of the atmosphere and ideals of that period. It was a time when all of us pulled together. It was a time when we thought about the general benefit, the common good, when all of us wanted the totalitarian system to fall so that our country would be free and independent and would build democracy. This was more important to us than an interest of a specific group among us or a personal interest.

It seems to me that now when the election fight is beginning and will gradually increase in its intensity, it will do no harm to remember that atmosphere. You heard about Dr. Rasin's message from his death bed [Rasin was assassinated in 1923] in which he called for unity—not for the unity meaning that everyone is obliged to have the same view, but for unity in the sense that everyone is concerned about the well-being of all of us and that we all put this common interest above our individual interests. Thank you for your attention. [end recording]

Separate Slovak, Czech Television Planned

LD2804223690 Prague Television Service in Czech 1730 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Summary] A two-day working meeting of representatives of the mass media, governmental press departments, journalists organizations, and other experts on state information policy in the two national republics and the entire Czechoslvak Federation has ended in Modra-Harmonia. A decision was made that there will be a separate Slovak and Czech television. Slovak television already exists, but Czech television will have to be created. The first channel will be a federal one and will be a joint channel to which both Czech and Slovak television will contribute. The second channel will contain independent national channels, one Czech and one Slovak, created by Czech and the Slovak television separately. The third channel will be the open one on which Czechoslovak viewers will be able to watch the satellite broadcast, the broadcast of Western television stations.

Slovak Television Official Resigns

AU2704190390 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 25 Apr 90 p 2

[CTK report: "On the Situation in Television"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The Presidium of the Slovak Republic Government discussed the situation in Slovak

Television and ordered the director to work out an analysis of the problems in the personnel, programming, and material and technical spheres, including solutions to their operative as well as their long-term concepts. It stressed that television broadcasting should be a consistent implementation of the principles of balanced themes and genres in order to reflect the plurality of our social life. Jozef Ruttkay has been released at his own request from his post as Slovak Television first deputy director. [passage omitted]

Central Cooperatives Council Elects New Chairman

AU2704180490 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 25 Apr 90 p 2

[Unattributed report from the "By Telex, Mail, Telephone..." column]

[Text] The Committee of the Central Council of Cooperatives met in Jiloviste near Prague on Tuesday [24 April]. Its members approved Vladislav Treska's request to be relieved from the position of chairman of the Central Council of Cooperatives. Ota Karen, formerly chairman of the "Pokrok" [Progress] Housing Construction Cooperative in Prague, was elected to this post.

New Daily To Begin 2 May

LD2804165190 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1330 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Summary] A new daily paper called OBCANSKY DENIK [CITIZENS' DAILY] will come out beginning 2 May. Its editor in chief, Karel Stanek, explains that it will be an independent paper championing freedom, democracy, and social guarantees. It will have eight pages, come out daily except for Sundays, and will have a 12-page supplement in the Friday edition. It will cost 1 koruna, and have a print-run of 150,000.

New Current Events Programs Scheduled

AU2704190890 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 26 Apr 90 p 3

["(HY)"-signed report: "The End of the Square Globe"]

[Text] When a square globe appeared recently in the signature tune at the beginning of "Television News," it aroused all sorts of opposition—but we got used to it. However, as it turns out, this was all in vain because that cube will disappear from our screens along with "Television News."

As of 30 April, it will be replaced by the "Czechoslovak Television Journal," which will be broadcast at 1930 [1730 GMT] on the first channel. The program will be 20 minutes long and will contain brief reports without commentaries. There will be no sports news.

At 2200 [2000 GMT], the first channel will broadcast the "Events and Commentaries Program." It will be 30 minutes long. The program's title pretty well characterizes the nature of the broadcast; it will also contain reports on foreign events.

"Current Affairs," containing sports news, will be broadcast at 2100 [1900 GMT] on the second channel. These changes do not involve "Minutes of the Day." Moreover, Czechoslovak Television reports will be enhanced by topical features reacting to the most important events as they are actually happening.

"Economic Diary" and "24 Hours in the World" will disappear from our screens.

GERMAN REUNIFICATION

Notice to Readers: *Reportage on German reunification may also be found in the Federal Republic of Germany section of the West Europe DAILY REPORT and pertinent sections of the East Europe JPRS Report. Third-country comment is published as available in the appropriate DAILY REPORT or JPRS publication.*

De Maiziere, Ministers Attend Summit in Moscow

ADN Previews Talks

LD2704195990 East Berlin ADN in English 1712 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere, in his first official trip abroad taking him to Moscow on Saturday [28 April], will take along important messages for the Soviet leadership, Government Spokesman Matthias Gehler told newsmen here on Friday [27 April].

De Maiziere first of all wanted to develop extensive bilateral ties. In a meeting with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev slated for Sunday the GDR premier would hail the policy of perestroyka and glasnost which had made possible the changes in the GDR.

Talks would centre on the process of European unification with German unification being part of this process. Further points were disarmament and economic issues, the spokesman said.

De Maiziere's talks in Moscow will also be attended by Foreign Minister Markus Meckel, Economics Minister Gerhard Pohl and Disarmament and Defence Minister Rainer Eppelmann.

In an interview with FRG newspaper BILD ZEITUNG De Maiziere pointed to the great sense for reality the Soviet Union demonstrated in the past in supporting the German unification process.

The GDR's incorporation in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization should be further negotiated. He also wanted to talk about Soviet troops in the GDR, De Maiziere announced.

Discuss German NATO Membership

LD2904161390 East Berlin Deutschlandsender Network in German 1500 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] A united Germany's alliance membership was the main topic today [29 April] at the GDR-Soviet summit in Moscow. Premier de Maiziere discussed this with Soviet President Gorbachev and head of government Ryzhkov. GDR Government spokesman Gehler said that the question of NATO membership also dominated the meetings between Foreign Ministers Meckel and Shevardnadze and Defense Ministers Eppelmann and Yazov. The GDR has shown understanding for the Soviet Union's political, economic, and military interests. In its view, no one need fear unity. Yazov said that a united Germany in NATO would destabilize international relations.

A round of negotiations this afternoon was devoted to economic and trade relations. GDR Economics Minister Pohl gave an assurance of wanting to fulfill all contracts and to develop new forms of cooperation. The USSR proposed including representatives from the federal republic in future discussions on economic issues.

Visit Positively Assessed

LD2904171490 East Berlin Deutschlandsender Network in German 1600 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] Premier de Maiziere assessed his visit to Moscow, which is coming to an end, as a good and useful one. At an international news conference in the Soviet capital this afternoon [29 April], he said that complicated questions had been discussed objectively and in many respects agreements reached. During his two-hour meeting with Soviet President Gorbachev, they agreed that the internal aspects of German unification are a matter for the Germans themselves. Soviet security interests play a particular part. The Soviet president made it clear that a united Germany in NATO is unacceptable. De Maiziere called for compromise solutions to be found. With the current NATO strategy, he said, the GDR would not enter the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The aim is for changes, however. The GDR also wants to hold talks with its federal German partners on this. The premier refuted Soviet fears that economic agreements would not be kept. The possibility was considered of tripartite talks with the FRG on economic questions.

Eppelmann on Dual Military Role

LD2804182190 Hamburg DPA in German 1753 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Moscow (DPA)—Disarmament and Defense Minister Rainer Eppelmann envisages dual membership of a united Germany in NATO and the Warsaw Pact. On the eve of his talks in Moscow with Soviet Defense Minister Marshal Dmitriy Yazov, Eppelmann told the German Press Agency today that the proposal by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze for dual membership is a compromise formula in order to bring the various standpoints closer together. "We shall have to consider the Shevardnadze proposal," he said. The GDR's attitude is "very flexible."

Regarding the alliance issue, the GDR itself is "affected existentially and emotionally," he added. In his talks he sees himself primarily as a listener. He understands the Soviet Union's fears of being pushed into the role of an outsider. It remains the objective of the GDR Government "to upgrade" [aufwerten] the Soviet interests in the talks between the four victorious powers and the two German states (Two Plus Four talks). "We want to show the Soviets that we are not on the other side," he said. The GDR cannot be indifferent to Moscow's attitude toward the European process.

Meckel on NATO Issue

LD2904220390 Hamburg DPA in German
2010 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Excerpts] East Berlin (DPA)—Immediately after his visit to Moscow, GDR Foreign Minister Markus Meckel made plain the GDR Government's expectations with reference to the alliance question, and called upon NATO to take action. Meckel said this evening [29 April], after talks with leading Soviet politicians, that the Soviet side would "no longer persist" with its refusal to countenance a unified Germany's membership in NATO, "if NATO makes some visible movement." This is an important step forward "which the West can take." [passage omitted]

Meckel stressed that a trusting relationship between the GDR and the Soviet Union is of particular importance "for a future Europe." The GDR foreign minister spoke of the "central Berlin-Warsaw-Moscow axis," which will play a "central role" in the future.

USSR To Destroy SS-23's

LD2904205890 Hamburg DPA in German
1956 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Excerpts] Moscow (DPA)—The Soviet Union has promised the GDR that it will shortly take out 24 SS-23 missile systems from the GDR and scrap them in the Soviet Union. Defense Minister Rainer Epppelmann told DPA after his talks with Soviet Defense Minister Dmitriy Yazov that this was one of the most important outcomes of his talks with Yazov. For environmental-technical reasons, the GDR has difficulties with the destruction of the missiles, and it therefore welcomes the help of the Soviet Union. [passage omitted]

Another major result of the negotiations is the change proposed by the GDR to the agenda for the meeting of Warsaw Pact defense ministers in East Berlin at the beginning of June. The radical change in the East European countries has made rethinking necessary, in military terms also. The meeting would therefore deal with the changed military situation, and possibly also the conversion of the Eastern military alliance into a "predominantly political alliance."

The GDR defense minister also announced the Soviet Union's readiness to cut its troops in the GDR by about half, to 200,000. A date for the troop withdrawal has not yet been set, Eppelmann said.

Arms Deliveries To Be Renegotiated

LD3004094290 East Berlin Deutschlandsender Network in German 0900 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] Supplies of Soviet military equipment to the GDR agreed for this year are to be renegotiated. The USSR is prepared to do this, Defense Minister Eppelmann said after his talks with his counterpart Yazov in Moscow. The original plans provided for deliveries of above all missiles, helicopters, and ammunition to the GDR worth 2 billion marks. These savings, Eppelmann said, could help to reduce arms expenditure by 46 percent.

Soviet Reportage on Visit

WA3004154090

For Soviet reportage on Premier de Maiziere's official visit to Moscow, including talks with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov, Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, and Defense Minister Dimitriy Yazov, see the East Europe section of the 30 April issue of the Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

De Maiziere Seeks Bonn Aid for Soviet Troops

LD3004071590 Hamburg DPA in German
0001 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] Hamburg (DPA)—Premier Lothar de Maiziere (Christian Democratic Union) intends to negotiate with the federal government on financial aid from Bonn for the reintegration of Soviet soldiers returning to their homeland from GDR territory. De Maiziere announced this in an interview in the "HAMBURGER ABENDBLATT" (Monday's edition). The accommodation and professional future of those returning to the Soviet Union was one of the obstacles in reducing troops from the Soviet Union in the allied states.

The item was pre-released to DPA in an edited version.

Alliance 90/Greens Support Gorbachev Stance

LD3004044590 East Berlin Domestic Service
in German 2100 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] The Alliance 90/Greens People's Chamber group has this evening welcomed the stance adopted by Soviet President Gorbachev on the security policy ideas of the GDR's delegation. Spokesman Konrad Weiss said that Gorbachev had clearly rejected the attempts to smuggle the GDR into NATO. Weiss said that meant the failure of Foreign Minister Meckel's hazardous concept, which would have had as a consequence an irresponsible disruption of the balance in Europe. His parliamentary group called for the united Germany to become a member of both military alliances for a transitional period.

Agreement Reached in Union Treaty Talks

LD2704201190 East Berlin ADN in English
1725 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—In the German-German talks on a union treaty between the GDR and the FRG, agreement was reached on many issues, according to the two heads of delegations.

The five-hour negotiations of economic, financial, law, labour and social experts held here on Friday [27 April] were headed by FRG Bundesbank Director Hans Tietmeyer and Guenter Krause, state secretary in the GDR Prime Minister's Office.

Krause, qualifying the negotiations as fruitful, told journalists the open problems were solvable. He was optimistic that a final result would be reached in the foreseeable future.

Sources in Bonn said the expert talks would be continued next Tuesday.

The treaty is to pave the way for currency, economic and social union of the FRG and the GDR and is a major step towards the unification of the two German states.

Introduction of the FRG mark as legal tender in [words indistinct] wages and pensions are to be swapped at parity the same as savings up to a certain sum, according to an FRG Government proposal.

Kohl Urges 'Spirit of Solidarity'

LD2704194390 East Berlin Deutschlandsender Network in German 1900 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Federal Chancellor Kohl has admitted there are possibilities for the two German states to agree on Bonn's offer on the state treaty. He said to German Television [DFF] this evening his government had not presented a finished treaty but a package for negotiations that is, however, moving to the financial upper limits. The growing together of the two German states must unfold in the spirit of solidarity. The federal chancellor cited it as a matter of current priority to introduce the Deutsche mark in the GDR beginning 1 July. However, independent of this, there were questions that are still open. He promised to link a social network against unemployment in the GDR with the introduction of the monetary union. Kohl appeared convinced the GDR will be an economically flourishing country by 1995.

Parliament Presidiums Establish Official Contacts

LD3004111390 Hamburg DPA in German 1035 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] East Berlin (DPA)—The Bundestag and the GDR People's Chamber today established official contacts. The presidiums of the two parliaments met at noon, led by Presidents Rita Suessmuth and Sabine Bergmann-Pohl (both Christian Democratic Union) in the People's Chamber building in East Berlin. Parliamentary cooperation in the process of German unity, the planned statement by the two parliaments on the Polish western frontier, and joint commemoration of 17 June 1953 will be discussed.

This meeting is the first time since the end of the Weimar Republic that freely elected parliamentarians from all of Germany are consulting together. On their arrival, Frau Suessmuth and Frau Bergmann-Pohl spoke of an "historic day." Frau Suessmuth emphasized that it is now necessary for the two parliaments to be included wholeheartedly in the consultations on the monetary, economic, and social union as well as in the process of German unity. She also underlined the significance of a joint statement on the Polish frontier.

Frau Bergmann-Pohl repeated her call for German unity to take place speedily but with circumspection. This above all means that the two parliaments must be fully included.

The discussions will continue this afternoon in the Reichstag building in West Berlin. The two presidents also intend to plant a tree at the Reichstag.

Officials React Positively to 1:1 Conversion Rate

AU2704154090 East Berlin DER MORGEN in German 25 Apr 90 p 1

[ADN report: "Reactions to 1:1 Offer"]

[Excerpt] East Berlin— There have been mixed reactions to Bonn's offer in connection with monetary union. Most of them are characterized by a slightly positive tendency:

GDR Government spokesman Gehler spoke of conditions that are in line with the ideas of Prime Minister de Maiziere. He positively assessed the 1:1 rate for wages and pensions. The limit of 4,000 marks of savings is a basis for negotiation, he pointed out.

Economics Minister Pohl shares this view, but he would like to examine the conversion of loans and to further discuss the exchange rate for savings.

Finance Minister Romberg is still waiting for details and is not too happy about the conversion rate for savings. However, he is pleased with the regulation concerning the pensions.

Rainer Ortleb, chairman of the League of Free Democrats-the Liberals, believes that the offer is suited to raise the spirits of people in the GDR. He described the 4,000 mark limit for savings as a solid proposal. [passage omitted]

Economics Minister Pohl on Market Economy

AU2704152690 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 24 Apr 90 p 5

[Interview with Economics Minister Gerhard Pohl by Dietmar Rietz; place and date not given: "Contracts Will Be Honored"]

[Text] [Rietz] How do you assess the FRG Government's proposal for the exchange rate?

[Pohl] It came as a surprise today. It contains a reasonable offer for wages, pensions, and savings. As for the rest, the ideas of the FRG Government are more or less in line with the coalition agreements and the government statement. Talks must be held at government level now on the basis of the working material that has been submitted. This is the situation.

[Rietz] What makes you adopt an optimistic attitude concerning the economy?

[Pohl] Many people have understood and made use of the impulses provided by the laws adopted during the past legislative period of the People's Chamber to establish new enterprises. In addition, I rely on the diligence and the innovative strength of GDR citizens. We will now create the preconditions for economic union with the FRG, we will revise the draft of the right of establishment, and we will amend the banking law. Owing to the lack of material conditions, many new regulations have not become effective yet. Loans within the European Recovery Program and a law on space used for industrial purposes will create the required conditions.

[Rietz] Why are you against temporary protective measures for industrial branches that are facing stiff competition, against conditions granted to Saarland during its incorporation in to the FRG?

[Pohl] This would not be a suitable way to build a market-oriented economy. Our partners in the FRG and EC would not understand the introduction of protective duties, for example. The Finance and Social Ministries may think differently, but we represent the strategy of the Economics Ministry. Our economy will be compatible with the EC by 1992 when the EC single market will be introduced.

[Rietz] One-fifth of all workplaces in the GDR are directly linked with mutual supplies between the GDR and the Soviet Union. How will economic relations with the USSR develop?

[Pohl] I will fly to Moscow this week to discuss this problem, which is of vital importance for us. We will not give up relations with CEMA countries, but intensify them. In any case, we will take our contractual agreements seriously and try to completely honor them, particularly agreements with the Soviet Union.

Diestel Rejects Gysi-Goebbels Comparison

AU2704165290 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 24 Apr 90 p 3

[ADN report: "Diestel Distances Himself from Goebbels Comparison"]

[Text] Interior Minister Peter-Michael Diestel (German Social Union) distanced himself from the statements of DSU [German Social Union] member Joachim Hubertus Nowack in Berlin on Monday [23 April]. At the most recent People's Chamber session, Nowack compared the chairman of the Party of Democratic Socialism [PDS], Gregor Gysi, with Propaganda Minister Goebbels. Asked by journalists about these statements, Diestel stressed that he rejects the reference to Goebbels. He would not have said it this way. Diestel announced a private talk with the PDS chairman on this issue.

Despite Diestel's attitude, Joachim Hubertus Nowack stated that apologizing to the PDS for his comparison with Goebbels is out of the question. Nowack wants to read out a statement at the next People's Chamber session. He knows that Gysi is not Goebbels, which, as a matter of fact, he did not say. The PDS itself made this comparison, he stated.

Government Wants 'Tough' Measures To Keep Order

AU2704143590 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 25 Apr 90 p 3

[ADN report: "Government Wants To Adopt Tough Measures Against Hooligans"]

[Text] Internal security and public order must be tangibly increased in the process of democratic renewal. This applies both to new forms of criminality—such as the threat of violence, robbery, blackmail, arson, and hooliganism—as well as to enhancing safety in road traffic, and the prevention of fires. This was announced by Interior Minister Diestel on Tuesday [24 April] at a meeting of senior Interior Ministry officials.

Referring to recent violence, the minister stressed that the police will take resolute action to protect the citizens should such incidents occur. This is an important task that will contribute significantly to restoring the good reputation of the police. The government statement clearly includes the duty of ensuring the well-being of the community and protecting the security of the citizens and averting dangers. This requires loyal and self-confident policemen who are close to the citizens.

On Tuesday, the interior minister also discussed the continuation of the dissolution of the former State Security Ministry with the coordinators of the citizens' committees of the bezirks and of the Normannenstrasse citizens' committee. A press release stated that the involvement of the citizens' committees in the process of dissolution will also be required in the future.

Justice Minister on Transitional Constitution

LD2704201290 East Berlin ADN in English 1719 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—A modified form of the GDR's first constitution of 1949 is to be submitted to cabinet as a draft for the transitional constitution, Justice Minister Kurt Wuensche told newsmen here on Friday.

A draft constitution, tabled by the former round table dialogue forum, was a basis for discussion but its implementation required too much work and time, Wuensche said.

Creation of a unified system of laws for a united Germany should be dominated by FRG laws, Wuensche said. The GDR intended to greatly harmonize with FRG legislation in the fields of public, economic and administrative law, he said. Social components of the GDR Constitution, however, such as the tenancy law, the law of succession and the rights of use and property should be maintained, Wuensche said.

On Thursday, the GDR parliament spoke out against a new constitution pending German unification. Deputies earlier confessed conflicts with the GDR Constitution, which has been in force since 1974, in which the socialist order was laid down.

Viehweger Plan for Resolving Housing Problems

LD2704161690 East Berlin Deutschlandsender Network in German 1500 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] GDR Construction Minister Viehweger today put forward a three-stage plan for adapting rents to the market economy. In the first stage this would mean rents which cover costs, and mean in the final stage a six-fold increase for an average residence. Viehweger, however, gave an assurance that the rise would be linked to incomes. Social hardship is to be countered by compensatory payments. At the moment there are almost 800,000 unresolved accommodation problems in the GDR. Around one-third of them are urgent, the minister estimated. He pleaded for above-average savings to be exchanged at a more favorable rate than 2:1 if they are firmly linked to building societies.

Wall at Brandenburg Faces 28 Apr Demolition

LD2704184190 Hamburg DPA in German 1811 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (DPA)—The Wall is to be demolished in front of the Brandenburg Gate and replaced by a "simple metal fence." As a spokesman for the Mitte Border Command announced today, the first ten meters of the Wall will be demolished tomorrow afternoon. Soldiers with heavy equipment and supported by a West Berlin firm will be deployed for this. Policemen from both parts of the city will seal off the building site. Crossing the border at the Brandenburg Gate will continue to be possible over the next few days.

'Right-Wing Extremists' Arrested in E. Berlin

LD2704192890 Hamburg DPA in German 1800 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (DPA)—Nineteen people were arrested on 27 April when three occupied houses were cleared in the Lichtenberg district of East Berlin. The right-wing extremists, who had sought refuge in the houses, are alleged to have been involved in excesses in early April and last Friday [20 April] in Alexander Square. During the searches of the premises, air guns and ammunition, two radio sets, tear gas, and Republican propaganda material from the Nazi period were confiscated, ADN reported, citing the East Berlin police headquarters.

Some of the occupants surrendered voluntarily to the security forces. Police had to use explosives to gain access to some parts of the premises. Nobody was injured. The raid took place on the instructions of the East Berlin police chief in consultation with the interior minister and the state prosecutor.

Five High-Treason Sentences Annulled

AU2704162490 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 25 Apr 90 p 3

[ADN report: "High-Treason Sentences Annulled"]

[Text] East Berlin—On Tuesday afternoon [24 April], the Second Criminal Division of the GDR Supreme Court annulled the three- to 10-year sentences passed in 1958 against Ralf Schroeder, Harro Lucht, Ernst Loest, Ronald Loetzsch, and Harry Schmidtke because of "high treason" and "aiding and abetting high treason." All five were acquitted of all charges. The Court has ruled that they have the right to claim for compensation.

Dresden Mayor Suspected of Electoral Fraud

LD2704175590 Hamburg DPA in German 1621 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Dresden (DPA)—ADN reports today that enquiries have been started against Wolfgang Berghofer, mayor of Dresden and long-time Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] functionary, and Werner Moke, the former head of the SED city executive, for electoral fraud. Both politicians are suspected of having been guilty of electoral fraud in last May's local elections. The enquiries are proceeding under Paragraph 211 of the GDR's criminal code.

Majority in Favor of Renaming Karl-Marx-Stadt

AU2704144890 East Berlin NEUE ZEIT in German 24 Apr 90 p 1

[ADN report: "Majority in Favor of Chemnitz"]

[Text] Karl-Marx-Stadt—About three-quarters of the valid ballots cast in the referendum on the name of the Saxon industrial town showed preference for the name of Chemnitz. According to the working group that organized the referendum, 190,895 inhabitants participated. A total of 145,515 voted for the name of Chemnitz and 44,532 for Karl-Marx-Stadt; 848 ballots were invalid. This preliminary result was published on Monday evening [23 April] after the public counting of the votes.

Szuros on Central-East Europe Political Situation

LD3004011190 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1700 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Interview with interim President Matyas Szuros by unidentified reporter on "The Week Program"; place and date not given—recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted on Szuros' career] [Szuros] Hungary played a pioneering role in helping the political face of Central-East Europe change in a favorable direction, toward the spirit of democracy. This is the most important thing in Hungary, too—that we have started on the road toward democratization. People truly wanted to radically dismantle the old system, but they do not yet know what the result of this would be, and what would be constructed here. This is the task of the leaders, to help in this.

What is missing in Hungary is a strong, democratic, left-wing organization. If the HSP [Hungarian Socialist Party] can fill this role and can become an integrating force of the left wing, in a European sense, then in many respects we will have won our case. There is still much to be done here.

[Reporter] It is strange how the Western media behave toward us, even looking at just the past week. This week, DIE ZEIT and DER SPIEGEL expressed so much fear regarding Hungary, using adjectives such as anti-Semitic and nationalist. Why do you think our evaluation has dropped so much in West Europe, and exactly in those places where the money is?

[Szuros] Look, every such radical turnabout or change also entails upheavals. Emotions are let loose, too. They see that in Hungary, there is a pulling apart, there is a great degree of uncertainty, bickering, and so on. They also see that relations between the Central-East European countries have become more strained with the nationality question.

[Reporter] Can these strained nationality relations really be a sort of European danger spot?

[Szuros] Yes, they are worried about these manifestations, and whether these could deteriorate into an unchecked process or conflict here in Central-East Europe. During the time of my visit to the United States, I also experienced that the leaders of certain parties or their representatives, when they were out there, were lobbying the Americans not to give economic support to the Miklos Nemeth government. Well, they simply did not understand this; this is an unpatriotic attitude.

I also see that it is as if it has been spread from here, from Hungary, about our people, our country, how great the anti-Semitism is here, and what nationalist excesses there are. It is indisputable that there were extremist manifestations here, at the time of the elections—and we, too, experienced this ourselves—but, all in all, it cannot be said to be true. Most importantly, one cannot say that such ideological, political views have been elevated to the level of official policy. [passage omitted]

Gyula Horn on Lithuania, Romania, 'Open Skies'

LD2904092390 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0630 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Interview with Foreign Minister Gyula Horn by P. Szabo on the "World Clock" program; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Szabo] I read in a news agency report that President Landsbergis—that is, the Lithuanian president—has put out personal feelers to the Hungarian authorities to try and find out what help Budapest could give Vilnius in the event of a catastropic situation. Foreign Minister Gyula Horn, what do you know about this?

[Horn] I have no knowledge of any kind of putting out feelers of this sort, or at least of any requirement for specific help. In my view, first of all, one has to find out what Mr. President has in mind and afterwards to see what... what [Horn repeats himself] kind of support, one can give. But it has to be taken into consideration to the maximum extent that maintaining the new kind of relations with the Soviet Union is extraordinarily important for us. And the other thing that must also be taken into consideration is that we should not take any step which would represent a direct intervention in the Soviet Union's internal affairs.

[Szabo] I also read in the news that in the past weeks and months, the Hungarian foreign minister has received several letters from his Romanian colleague. I wonder if there has been any change in the Hungarian-Romanian relationship, I mean a positive change?

[Horn] We received brief, laconic answers from my Romanian colleague. Even despite the decisive promise, nothing has happened. I do not think that today there exists a political party in Hungary, a serious, responsible, political party, which would want bad relations with Romania; quite the contrary. At the same time we have to learn the lessons of the past, that while there was progress in words, in practice there was none. I must say that the latest statements, articles in the press, which say that Hungarians are using the old style, do give considerable food for thought. This is a powerful, not to say a ghostly, reminder of the terminology used by the overthrown Ceausescu regime.

[Szabo] In the matter of the "Open Skies," in other words, reciprocal air reconnaissance, it perhaps aroused certain surprise in public opinion that, regarding the Ottawa expectations, which Gyula Horn also voiced at the time, the Budapest discussions do not represent a conclusion, do not represent a final outcome.

[Horn] The way I would put it is that presumably the date of 12 May cannot be adhered to. In other words, that is the date for which we planned the signing of the agreement. I think the prime reason for this lies in the fact that partly the U.S. and partly the Soviet standpoints have hardened.

I have to say that our experience is that in Vienna also, at the talks of the 23, in other words at the discussions on the reduction of conventional forces and armaments, a certain kind of stiffening can be experienced. This is definitely connected with the Soviet political situation, which has become more complex. It is connected with all those changes that are taking place in Europe. I include here first and foremost the place, the role, of a unified Germany in Europe's security policy structure. The present-day Soviet leadership still does not have much idea what is to be do done with this.

Jeszenszky on Policy Toward East, West Europe

LD2904124790 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0630 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] Jozsef P. Szabo talked to Geza Jeszenszky, leader of the Hungarian Democratic Forum's [MDF] foreign affairs committee, the government party, about our general foreign polical objectives.

[Begin recording] [Szabo] Only a few days now divide us from the formation of the new parliament. There is naturally no government as yet, but our listeners are no doubt interested to find out what will be the most important priorities of the MDF's foreign policy in the near future.

[Jeszenszky] For us two areas of foreign policy are the most important. On the one hand, our West European policy, and on the other hand, if I can put it like that, our East European policy. Regardless of the fact that our objective is that the division of Europe should disappear once and for all, nevertheless at all events the neighboring states represent a very important area of Hungarian foreign policy. And these merit particular attention.

At the same time, where we hope for change, for improvement, where we hope for economic and political support for our economic plans, that is naturally West Europe. Moreover, from West Europe we hope for support even on the East European issues, which can be not merely moral but also very concrete, in so far as they link the support of other countries to certain conditions—to a policy on human rights—I am thinking first and foremost of Romania—to a kind of conduct, which is not usual in Europe. And if Romania does not behave in harmony with European norms, then it cannot have much expectation of support.

In the recent past several leading MDF persons met the Common Market ambassadors here. We talked about what we want to do, not only in foreign policy, but also in economic policy, domestic policy, and about what we can expect on the part of the Common Market. The fact alone that this meeting took place indicates how committed the Common Market is vis-a-vis Hungary.

As for Common Market membership, which is raised from time to time as a sensation here, I would stress that it is an academic question whether Hungary's full membership could come up after 1992, let us say, or in how many years it could come up. When Hungary begins the economic transformation, when the Hungarian economy transforms into a market economy, only then is there any sense in talking about full accession, because only then can we profit by it.

If Hungary joined the Common Market today, then this would be disadvantageous for us, because we are not competitive by any aspect. So, immediate accession by itself is not of very great interest. But associate status, a new version of which, the elaboration of a new agreement, is now on the agenda, this on the other hand could be advantageous until, hopefully, the Hungarian economy really attains a level where, let us say, Common Market accession could come on the agenda. [end recording]

Antall Addresses Conference of Western Businessmen

LD2804191890 Budapest MTI in English 1611 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 28 (MTI)—Hungary's political stability is guaranteed and can also be guaranteed in the period ahead, Jozsef Antall, president of the Hungarian Democratic Forum, told a conference of economic experts of seven leading capitalist countries in Budapest on Saturday [28 April].

The group of economists, set up last year at the initiative of French President Mitterrand, have met to work out recommendations for this year's capitalist summit in Houston.

At the request of the organizers, Antall briefly outlined Hungary's position and his concepts for the future. He said that as the differences dividing the parliamentary parties are not greater in Hungary than in other parliamentary democracies, the governing parties will be able to develop fair cooperation with the opposition forces as well. Given a strong government majority, there is also a chance for forming a stable government under hdf leadership, the party president said.

Jozsef Antall stressed the new government reckons with the confidence of foreign investors. The new administration will also preserve the country's solvency, observe the valid international agreements and pay off the national debt.

The new government is to cooperate with the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and other international organizations. It calls for the privatization process to be as rapid as possible. All rumours to the contrary are groundless, Antall said.

Speaking about unemployment, Jozsef Antall pointed out that the anti-inflationary economic policy requires the government to work out expedient measures to handle the problem. One of the initial moves will be to set up a labour ministry.

"We want to give the portfolios to noted experts, and not party politicians," the HDF president said, outlining the resolution from the party's board session. He was of the opinion that the takeover of governmental affairs would go undisturbed: the party's competent officials are already in daily contact with the current acting government.

Antall Expects Economic Support From FRG

LD2804213290 Budapest MTI in English
1656 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Bonn, April 28 (MTI)—On the difficult road to a market economy, Jozsef Antall expects the most economic support from the Federal Republic of Germany, a country with which Hungary has excellent business links, runs a review of the "STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG" interview with Prime Minister-Designate Jozsef Antall, president of the Hungarian Democratic Forum.

According to the review published on Saturday in the leading daily of Baden-Wurttemberg Province, which maintains particularly close contacts with Hungary, Jozsef Antall also expects recognition for Hungary's move last year when it opened its western border to GDR refugees whereby it actually contributed to the revolutionary turn in the German Democratic Republic. Antall referred to pledges by Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and Lothar Spaeth, prime minister of Baden-Wurttemberg, to this effect.

"Notwithstanding the severe problem of unification, Germany will have sufficient strength to support Hungary," quotes the paper the Hungarian senior politician.

Antall left no doubt about Budapest's intention to leave the Warsaw Treaty sooner or later. He was of the opinion that the Warsaw Treaty had anyway become unviable after all member countries, except the Soviet Union, have non-communist governments. The question 'when' will probably be clarified with Czechoslovakia and Poland.

Trade Minister on E. Europe Economic Cooperation

LD2804142290 Budapest Domestic Service
in Hungarian 1000 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Excerpts] A three-day international consultation on regional cooperation has been held in Bratislava. Julia Tordai questioned Trade Minister Tamas Beck, who was one of the speakers at the meeting: [Passage omitted: Tordai suggests West wishes that East European countries would form cooperation among themselves first; Beck notes that no analysis has been carried out yet as to which East European countries would contribute and profit]

[Begin Beck recording] Raising such ideas as Polish-Czechoslovak-Hungarian cooperation can be realistic only if its economic content as well as its results are backed up, but nowhere has this been possible to see yet. In addition, there are well-working, sympathetic groups—I consider. The Alps-Adria as such a group, for example—where Austrian-Italian-Hungarian cooperation may be formed. In my view, we could profit more from this than perhaps from other groupings.

In such a group, there should be a country that pulls the rest along, for if a group is formed only by those countries that are lagging behind, then nothing good will come of it. [passage omitted: Beck says that although the conference did not discuss the national minority issue, it is obvious that only a balanced national minority policy in all the countries trying to cooperate economically could succeed in doing so] [end recording]

Anti-Gorbachev KGB Plot Said Foiled in Budapest

LD2804114690 Budapest Domestic Service
in Hungarian 1000 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] [Announcer] Today's issue of MAI NAP declares with a huge headline: A KGB provocation has been foiled in Budapest. Jozsef Laszlo reads the more important bits.

[Laszlo] Well, if the story is true, then it is fantastic. I say if because at first reading, it appears just too fantastic, really.

What is at issue here is this: As we reported a few months ago, in the USSR, a Soviet cooperative [ANT] allegedly tried to sell arms abroad without any kind of export licence—tanks and airplanes. Well, it seems that the men of this cooperative appeared in Budapest and here—and this is where the twist comes into the affair—they became victims of a provocation; at least this is what comes out of the MAI NAP story, because KGB agents allegedly tried to use them to hurt the reformers in Moscow. I think this is the story briefly in MAI NAP.

[Announcer] A short time ago, I phoned Dr. (Jozsef Igloi), head of department of the Chief Public Prosecutor's Office.

[Begin recording] [Announcer] Are you convinced that a provocation has indeed taken place and that the Soviets wanted to mislead the Hungarian authorities?

[Igloi] As far as I am concerned, I do not see sufficient grounds for proof of provocation in itself, but it appears interesting—and everyone can draw his own conclusions from the fact that when the Soviet delegation, with a prosecutor and several investigators [vizsgalo] arrived here bringing the warrant [megkereses] of the USSR deputy supreme prosecutor, they did not make available to us all the evidence which would have set out unambiguously the subject in question.

In reality, it was not bribe money which they [the ANT men] received—what is more, not $20,000 but $140,000—but such a guarantee of contract is usual in international practice, i.e., in case the contract fails to be struck, this should act as so-called forfeit money. It was in this way also that the Soviet delegation handed over a tape recording. This tape recording was, however, translated with bits missing. It became clear from the translation we prepared that the two Soviet citizens had said completely unambiguously that this money was not theirs, they could not share this out, it belonged to the Soviet state. After this, a videotape recording was made available to us which was a copy, however, from which significant parts were missing.

On the basis of these data we had to conclude that their [the ANT men] defense, that they accepted the money as a deposit, a guarantee, and did so perfectly legally and not as personal bribe money, has grounds [alapos]. The [Hungarian] Chief Public Prosecutor set this out in a letter to the USSR supreme public prosecutor on 14 March 1990. In this, we referred to the fact that had they made the evidence available to us in good time, an illegal order to investigate would not have been issued, nor would an unjustified limitation of the freedom of a person, or speaking plainly, a detainment. Let me quote a sentence from the letter:

Following the assessment of all the circumstances of the case, we do not consider correct the activity of the representatives of the Soviet justice organs present [in Hungary].

[Announcer] Is it possible to say that through this affair they wished to discredit the reformers in Moscow?

[Igloi] In my view, yes. I do not know how well known it is that NEWSWEEK published an article relating to the sale of tanks in which this same ANT organization, cooperative, featured and—probably on the basis of reliable sources—it writes that it aims at discrediting Gorbachev or Ryzhkov, who support the cooperative movement.

[Announcer] What will now happen in the case?

[Igloi] As far as we are concerened, we have closed the case. The investigating authority has correctly stopped the investigation in the absence of a criminal act, and we naturally replied to the USSR supreme public prosecutor as I already quoted. The investigation is fruitless, i.e., the investigation has rather proved the innocence of those under suspicion. [end recording]

Prosecutor Objects to Soviet Conduct

LD2904083290 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0800 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] Hungary's supreme state prosecutor does not deem certain steps of the Soviet judicial organs to have been correct. This is contained in the letter which Karoly Szijarto addressed to his Soviet colleague back in March. The document is published in today's NEPSZABADSAG, following the emergence of further details about the Hungarian connections of the alleged arms racket of the ANT Soviet state cooperative union.

The supreme state prosecutor's letter affirms that the Soviet judicial organs had withheld evidence, in the absence of which proceedings were launched, without grounds, in Hungary against two Soviet foreign traders. As we reported yesterday the two men wanted to sell aircraft parts to a Sudanese purchaser, entrusted by the KGB. The Soviet Chief Prosecutor's Office accused them of having attempted bribery. The Hungarian police investigation, on the other hand, showed that it was a question of provocation. Precisely for this reason the supreme state prosecutor has written a letter objecting to the Soviet organs' misleading conduct. Incidentally, the international press suspects that what lies behind the affair is an attack against certain reformers of the Soviet Government, specifically against head of government Ryzhkov.

October Party Heads Pro-Lithuania Protest

LD2704210990 Budapest MTI in English 1918 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 27 (MTI)—Some 50 people began a protest in front of parliament building on Friday afternoon, on the appeal of the Hungarian October Party.

Party President Gyorgy Krasso said the great powers are bargaining in the matter of Lithuania. He compared the current independence fight of Lithuania with the Hungarian revolution of 1956.

Mr Krasso handed over a petition addressed to Interim President Matyas Szuros, to a staff member of the president's office. In the petition, the party asks the interim president to protest against the obstruction of Lithuanian winning its independence.

The protesters then went to the Embassy of the United States in Budapest, and presented a petition addressed to President George Bush, to a staff member of the embassy. The protesters, who by this time numbered about 100, then marched to the Soviet Embassy in Budapest. Here, Mr Krasso delivered a speech, stressing that Lithuania has become a symbol for the peace-loving citizens of the world. Staff members of the Soviet Embassy did not accept the petition of the Hungarian October Party addresed to Presisdent Mikhail Gorbachev. In the end, Mr Krasso sliped the paper in under the door.

USSR Blocks FIDESZ Travel to Lithuania

LD2804204190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1600 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] The Federation of Young Democrats [FIDESZ] parliamentary group and the FIDESZ National Board has called on Foreign Minister Gyula Horn to send an official diplomatic protest to the Soviet Union because the FIDESZ delegation last Friday in Moscow was prevented from reaching Lithuania. Three FIDESZ members of parliament and a member of the board were expelled from the Soviet Union by the Soviet border guards organization. Via the Soviet Embassy in Budapest, the FIDESZ sent a letter to Prime Minister Ryzhkov, expressing their outrage over the treatment of the official delegation.

Dalai Lama Meets Foreign, Domestic Journalists

LD2804182290 Budapest MTI in English 1737 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 28 (MTI)—Tenzin Gyamco, The 14th Dalai Lama, in self-imposed exile for 31 years, told journalists in Budapest on Saturday [28 April] that he was not going to return to his country for the time being, because he believes he can do a lot more abroad for the rise of Tibet.

The Dalai Lama was invited by Hungary's Karma-Kadupa community and Chan Buddhist community.

On the final day of his visit, the Dalai Lama met domestic and foreign journalists at Budapest University of Economics.

Answering questions, he said that the newly emerged democratic atmosphere in Eastern Europe, including Hungary, had paved the way for his current visit. He added the sole reason why he came to Hungary was his personal interest towards this country, which can also be considered to return the interest the Hungarians show in Tibetan culture.

Following the news conference, the Dalai Lama gave a lecture, "The Buddhist approach to problems of human existence", at Budapest University of Economics.

Bela Varga Arrives for National Assembly Session

LD2904222690 Budapest MTI in English 1700 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 29 (MTI)—Bela Varga, president of the 1946 Hungarian National Assembly now living in New York, arrived in Budapest on Sunday.

The politician has been invited to the founding session of the new parliament starting on Wednesday, by Matyas Szuros, interim president of the Republic of Hungary, and the parliamentary parties.

Varga was welcomed at Ferihegy Airport by Istvan Fodor, acting speaker of Parliament, and Jozsef Antall, president of the Hungarian Democratic Forum.

Also present were Arpad Goncz, representative of the Alliance of Free Democrats, Vince Voros, president of the Independent Smallholders' Party, Rezso Nyers, president of the Hungarian Socialist Party, and Sandor Keresztes, president of the Christian Democratic People's Party.

MTI has been informed that Bela Varga will spend two weeks in Hungary.

After his arrival, the 88-year-old Bela Varga readily faced the press despite his advanced age, poor health and the long journey.

He said that although he left the country with a death sentence 43 years ago and his name could not be written down since then, he has remained Hungarian in his heart and never broke away from his homeland in his feelings. The most important thing for Hungarians is to be capable of love, foregiveness and cooperation, Bela Varga stressed.

MDF Issues Statement on Hungarians in Romania

LD2704224890 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Excerpts] There is still no decision as to who will head what ministry. This will be decided during the coalition negotiations. However, it is a fact already that the MDF [Hungarian Democratic Forum] wants to modify the government's structure. Jolan Gal was at their news conference today [27 April].

[Begin Gal recording] [passage omitted] At the news conference a written declaration was also distributed. In it the National Presidium of the MDF expresses its solidarity with the RMDSz [Democratic Alliance of Magyars in Romania]. It condemns the anti-Magyar provocations and all anti-minority expression. It notes with shock that the settlement of the affair of the Romanian Hungarian Minority is still unresolved. At the same time it stresses that the leaving of the homeland or mass flight is unacceptable. Even countries richer than Hungary have already restricted the admittance of refugees. The state of affairs in refugee camps in Hungary is such that the ensurance of conditions for survival has become impossible, and this, the MDF declaration states, puts the mother country in a difficult position. [end recording]

Tabajdi on National Minority Tensions

AU2704144490 Budapest MAGYAR NEMZET in Hungarian 24 Apr 90 p 4

[Report on interview with Deputy Minister Csaba Tabajdi, head of the Ethnic and National Minority College, by Istvan Denes; place and date not given: "Europe Is Helplessly Facing National Minority Affairs"]

[Excerpts] An international conference of experts on national minority rights was held in Dobogoko over the weekend. Representatives of many European countries, the Council of Europe, and the European Parliament exchanged views on the issue at the conference organized by the Ethnic and National Minority College of the Hungarian Government.

There is no need to stress the timeliness of the national minority problem in light of the events in Europe in recent months. The unsettled conditions of national minorities in Central-East Europe, German reunification, and conflicts in the Baltic clearly show that Europe in the nineties cannot avoid reevaluating the national and national minority issues. We asked Csaba Tabajdi about the experiences of this conference.

[Tabajdi] Foreign participants highly appreciated Hungary's role in agreeing to legally settle the national minority issue in recent years, including the domestic and international aspects of this problem. Mr. Leuprecht, general director of the Human Rights Committee of the Council of Europe, said that our activity is already tangibly affecting the activity of the Council. This conference was also successful because the experts came here to discuss concrete subjects and we did not exchange views on generalities. On one occasion, we discussed the Hungarian draft bill on the national minority and language minority. I can say that such a prestigious conference of national minority researchers has never before been held in Hungary. [passage omitted]

I also consider this conference clearly successful because I think we succeeded in proving that Hungary does not limit this problem to the Hungarian-Romanian, or Hungarian-Slovak relations, but it thinks in broader and more European terms. We received a lot of useful proposals for the aforementioned draft bill which, incidentally, was extremely well received and many people said that it can be a model for the entire European national minority protection. We regard the international comparison of such bills as one of the best forms of integration in Europe.

[Denes] The experts found this conference to be clearly successful, and the fact that the conference succeeded in issuing a joint statement sent to the foreign ministries of the countries participating in the Helsinki process, the Council of Europe, and to the European Parliament also shows this. However, the attitude of some Western countries is disturbing and worth noticing. Personally, what do you think is behind this behavior?

[Tabajdi] In November and December 1990, when the Hungarian diplomacy "scrutinized" the Western governments on the subject of this conference, the situation in Europe was different. At the time, one could still hope that the national minority policy would also change with the fall of dictatorships. Unfortunately, the opposite happened. The end of the pressure exercised by the dictatorships released everything that was buried deep inside. The essential thing has come forward in the blunt facts. [passage omitted]

[Denes] For a long time, the West treated the national minority issue as some kind of Balkan issue, claiming that a democratic regime will solve the problems. Then came Le Pen in France, the neo-Nazis in the GDR, the republicans in the FRG, the smoldering issue of Northern Ireland, Serbia, and so on. This shows that the national minority issue can emerge anywhere in the world, any time.

[Tabajdi] In my view, the West begins to realize that they should deal with the problem, but they have not yet decided on how to deal with it! [passage omitted]

Parties Agree on Parliament's Founding Session

LD2804221990 Budapest MTI in English
1906 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 28 (MTI)—As a result of little less than three weeks of coordination work, the representatives of parliamentary parties and the emissary of independent MP's [members of parliament] concluded an agreement on the founding session of parliament opening on May 2, including the mode of electing parliamentary officials, and the number of set-up of the standing and special committees.

The document was signed by Jozsef Antall of the Hungarian Democratic Forum, Peter Tolgyessy of the Alliance of Free Democrats, Jozsef Torgyan of the Independent Smallholders' Party, Zoltan Gal of the Hungarian Socialist Party (in the absence of Imre Pozsgay), Viktor Orban of the Federation of Young Democrats, Tibor Fuzessy of the Christian Democratic People's Party and Istvan Fodor, emissary of Independent MPs.

Under the agreement, the Hungarian Democratic Forum, the parliamentary party with the most mandates, will nominate a person for the post of speaker of parliament, who will also be interim president of the republic.

The signatory parties propose parliament should elect three deputy speakers to be nominated, in the order of strength of the parliamentary parties, by the Alliance of Free Democrats, the Independent Smallholders' Party and the Hungarian Socialist Party.

While the elected speaker exercises the authority of the president of the republic, the speaker's functions will be carried out by a vice-presient appointed by parliament, and nominated by the Alliance of Free Democrats.

SZDSZ President on Responsible Opposition

AU3004143290 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP
in Hungarian 25 Apr 90 p 4

[Report on interview with Alliance of Free Democrats President Janos Kis by Hanna Szalay; place and date not given: "Janos Kis on Responsible Opposition—We Are in the Room"]

[Excerpts] The Alliance of Free Democrats [SZDSZ] is striving to preserve the ability to govern Hungary, and, as a responsible opposition, the party will do everything possible to strengthen the government and will provide the 100 days—or even more—period of grace, Janos Kis told MAGYAR HIRLAP on the day following his election as party president. However, the party expects an acceptable stabilization program from the government and that the government parties should clearly refrain from regarding the free democrats as a "minority foreign to our nation."

[Szalay] What changes, if any, have the elections brought in the life of the SZDSZ?

[Kis] Indeed, the elections ended an era not only in the life of our country but also in the history of the SZDSZ. For the first time in 45 years, Hungary again has a freely elected Parliament representing the people, and Hungary will now have a legal government based on the confidence of the majority. As the largest opposition party, the SZDSZ has also become a legal parliamentary opposition. The SZDSZ will oppose the government, but a government in which our party no longer sees the representation of an illegal and illegitimate regime. This change has brought a totally new situation both in our opportunities and in our political style.

The free democrats start from the premise that they have to play the role of a responsible opposition in the Parliament. We are clearly aware of the fact that free elections only serve as a starting point in overcoming the deep crisis prevailing in Hungary. The current crisis situation, and primarily the economic crisis, requires a difficult and painful treatment. The next government will not have an easy task. We want to make sure that Hungary can be governed, and we will do everything that an opposition can do in order to strengthen the government. [passage omitted]

[Szalay] What are the basic principles of a responsible opposition?

[Kis] As the party of liberty and solidarity, we will primarily defend the rights of individuals and minorities. We will do everything in our power to make sure that a really democratic constitutional state develops here, and not some kind of majority dictatorship. We will protect press independence and the objectivity of national mass media. We will protect those who might be demoted from their positions because of their political conviction or party affiliation, irrespective of whether they are close to us or very far from us. We will struggle to preserve national minority rights beyond our borders too, and we will do this from our firm conviction that the road to solve the Hungarian national issue leads through guaranteeing national minority rights and the equal rights of Hungarian national minorities; a solution to the Hungarian issue can only be imagined through a reconciliation and rapprochement between peoples and states.

We believe in freedom in the economy, too; not only the freedom of employees, but also that of entrepreneurs and owners. We are convinced that only the emergence of a market economy based on a prevalence of private property can provide a long term solution to the crisis situation of the Hungarian economy. [passage omitted]

[Szalay] Have you overcome the shock caused by the campaign of slander directed at your party between the two rounds of the election campaign? From a distance, what is your opinion about the importance of this campaign of slander?

[Kis] I think that this campaign of slander indeed deprived us of some mandates in some electoral districts. However, I do not think that this has decisively affected the election results, and I also said this in the night of the election results. [passage omitted]

Federation of Young Democrats Elects Officials

LD2704210290 Budapest MTI in English 0835 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 27 (MTI)—Viktor Orban was elected to head the parliamentary group of the Federation of Young Democrats (FYD) [Federation of Democratic Youth (FIDESZ)] on 27 April by the parliamentary MP's [members of parliament] of the federation. Tamas Deutsch was elected deputy leader of the parliamentary group.

In an interview with MTI, Mr Deutsch said the parliamentary group decided at its session on Friday to accept the proposal on the composition of the parliamentary committees. Accordingly, the Federation of Young Democrats, and the Christian Democratic People's Party, will be able to have two MP's each in seven permanent committees, and one MP each in the defence, foreign affairs and the environmental protection permanent committees.

The FYD parliamentary group also decided on its nominees for the parliamentary functions offered to the party. The FYD proposes Bela Glattfelder and Zoltan Trombitas for the two permanent minute-taker functions. Gabor Fodor was proposed as chairman of the human rights, minority and religious affairs committee, and the FYD parliamentary group wishes to nominate Istavan Hegedus as deputy chairman of the foreign affairs committee.

Orban To Lead Parliamentary Group

LD2704225190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2000 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] We have news that the leader of the parliamentary group of the Federation of Democratic Youth [FIDESZ] will be Viktor Orban. The parliamentary group will delegate two members to each of seven permanent parliamentary committees, and one member to each of three permanent committees.

HSWP Files Suit Against HSP Government

LD2704165790 Budapest MTI in English 1437 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 27 (MTI)—On Friday, the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party [HSWP] filed an action with Budapest Municipal court against the Hungarian Socialist Party [HSP] and the government of the

Republic of Hungary, Laszlo Udvarhelyi, secretary of the HSWP Central Committee, told a news conference on Friday.

The plaintiff requests the court to obligate the HSP to submit a detailed account of former HSWP property as it stood on October 6, 1989, together with a report on how the HSP disposed of it after October 7. The plaintiff will indicate to what it sets a claim accordingly.

The petition says that the court should declare null and void the HSP's contracts and measures by which it alienated real estates and various licences after October 7. It should also obligate the defendants to restore things to their original state. Even until a valid decision is taken, the HSP assets have to be frozen, and the party forbidden to alienate the companies and business associations in its ownership.

Journalists were told that in the same petition the HSWP requested the court to order the documents in Janos Kadar's bequest to be given out to the party.

HSP Wants To Become Mass Party

LD2904130190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] [Announcer] Representatives of the Socialists' democratic platform are in session. Julia Torda reports:

[Torda] There is a need to renounce the state-party conditioned reflex, according to which the party wants to represent the interests of all the strata of society, said historian Tamas Krausz, who wrote the article serving as the basis for the debate at today's consultation. There is a need for an entirely new party leadership, not compromised in the party-state. The Hungarian Socialist Party wants to be the mass party of those living off wages and salaries. At the same time, Tamas Krausz warned that if they do not manage to realize all this within a foreseeable time, then the Socialist Party will disappear under the dual pressure of another, unnamed, left-wing party and the Alliance of Free Democrats.

Smallholders Party Nominates Leading Officials

LD2804213690 Budapest MTI in English 1830 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 28 (MTI)—The 44-member parliamentary faction of the Independent Smallholders' Party made his [as received] first visit to parliament and held a session on Saturday [28 April].

Faction leader Jozsef Torgyan said the most important task for Smallholder MP's [members of parliament] was to represent the party's policy in unison. At the same time, the representatives of individual constituencies are also answerable to their electors. In this way, he said, "clashes" might occur in the course of representative work. The session succeeded in formulating a common stand on this issue.

Participants in the meeting elected Sandor Olah deputy head of the faction and Pal Dragon, deputy general secretary of the Independent Smallholders' Party, faction secretary. Jozsef Torgyan was formerly elected head of the group.

Jozsef Torgyan, chief prosecutor of the party, is nominated as deputy chairman of the constitutional, legislative and judicial committee, Istvan Borocz, vice-president of the party, as deputy chairman of the self-administration, public administration, internal security and police committee, Gyorgy Balogh, acting vice-president of the party, as chairman of the Defence Committee, Mrs Laszlo Tarjan, deputy general secretary of the party's Somogy County organization, as secretary of the Environmental Protection Committee, and Istvan Prepeliczay, general secretary of the party, as deputy chairman of the committee on culture, education, science, sport, television and press.

As to the special committees, Sandor Olah, member of the party, is nominated as chairman of the Immunity and Incompatibility Committee, and Vilmos Bereczki, environmental secretary and spokesman of the party, as secretary of the National Security Committee.

Independent Smallholders Board Meets

LD2904212690 Budapest MTI in English 1857 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 29 (MTI)—As reported, the board of the Independent Smallholders' Party held a special session at Mom culture centre, Budapest, on Sunday.

The more than 500 delegates heard a leadership report on the events since the latest board meeting and a briefing on the coalition talks.

Party General Secretary Istvan Prepeliczay did not attend the meeting. (He said he was not let in the conference room.)

The meeting took place behind closed doors until afternoon.

Speaking to journalists in late afternoon, party vice-president Ferenc Nagy and spokesman Vilmos Bereczky said that although the session was originally scheduled for August 20 (a national day in Hungary, the name-day of state-founding King St. Stephen, the holiday of new bread and formerly the day of the "1949" Constitution), it took place in order [as received], with the active participation of delegates.

In their self-critical report, the leadership admitted that the party's recent political activity had not been satisfactory in every respect, frequently relying solely on past reminiscences. It is difficult to overcome this problem, but as the elections placed them in a favourable position and they have also moved into the focus of attention because of the current coalition talks, their mistakes are more apparent.

Ferenc Nagy was of the opinion that the party leadership has to reconcile the different views prevailing within the party so as to be able to find the right course to general satisfaction.

Asked about the various trends within the party, Ferenc Nagy said that during and after the elections there were views that they have to adopt to the victorious party, either the Alliance of Free Democrats or Hungarian Democratic Forum. It was kept secret for a long time, although the party leaders sided more closely in their political concepts with one or another party or trend. He believed the mistake was to insist on all this too rigidly later on as well.

Nagy said the Political Committee was authorized to propose recalling any of their MP's [members of parliament] who fail to represent the party's policy on governmental level from their party functions.

He also announced that the board amended the party constitution insofar as now not only MP's can be members of the Political Committee.

Ferenc Nagy stressed that the party's land programme was based on the rehabilitation of property, with a pledge of financial and moral indemnification.

The smallholders' Party board session noted with satisfaction the hitherto outcome of the coalition talks. They decided to replace Istvan Prepeliczay by Laszlo Hanko in the five-member delegation to the talks.

The result of the election of officials was announced in the evening. Ferenc Nagy, the former vice-president, was elected party president, Gyula Kiss general secretary and Istvan Bakos acting vice-president. The body chose four vice-presidents: Sandor Cseh, Laszlo Hanko, Bela Nemeth and Zsolt Rajkai.

Istvan Pohankovics became party director, and Valeria Szunyogh chairwoman of the 8-strong disciplinary panel. An 11-member political committee was elected, and Vilmos Bereczki confirmed in his spokesman's position.

In a brief speech at the end of the session, President Ferenc Nagy said currently the most important task was to reinforce the party ranks. The aim for local organizations is to treble in number and reach 3,000. It is necessary to set up the various committees, particularly the peasant and civic committee, and the independent youth organizations.

[Budapest Television Service in Hungarian at 1800 GMT on 29 April broadcasts a shorter report on the proceedings at the session. The television version adds the following: "It was decided, by a vote with two abstentions and two against, that the Independent Smallholders' Party will enter into a coalition with the Hungarian Democratic Forum."]

Social Democratic Party Leader To Resign

LD2704214290 Budapest MTI in English 1900 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 27 (MTI)—Anna Petrasovits, president of the Social Democratic Party of Hungary (SDPH), will step down from her function at the session of the board to be held on May 6. The SDPH president informed the party's legal committee about her decision on Friday, and she reconfirmed this decision at the meeting of the party's Komarom-Esztergom County Branch, held in Oroszlany on Friday.

Among the reasons Ms Petrasovits gave for her decision was that, following the strenuous work of the past months, she is tired. Her decision was not mainly influenced by the election results, rather by the events that took place following the elections. However, and in spite of this, she will not desert the party, but will continue to assist it in a manner to be decided on in the coming period, she said.

The SDPH president said at the county meeting that she would propose at the May 6 session of the board for an acting body to take over the direction of the Social Democratic Party of Hungary, and to summon the special congress of the party.

FRG's Genscher, Weizsaecker To Visit

LD2904145590 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1400 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Excerpts] On this coming Wednesday [2 May], Richard von Weizsaecker, the president of the German Federal Republic, starts an official visit to Poland. Not only will it be the first visit by the FRG head of state to Poland, but it will probably also be a visit by the future president of a unified Germany. [passage omitted] Weizsaecker will be accompanied by Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the vice chancellor and foreign affairs minister. [passage omitted]

Skubisdzewski Hands Draft Treaty to GDR, FRG

LD2704215390 Warsaw PAP in English 2038 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 27—Polish Foreign Affairs Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski tonight presented to GDR Ambassador Juergen van Zwoll and ambassador of the FRG Guenter Knackstedt notes with a draft treaty between the Republic of Poland and a united Germany on the foundations of their mutual relations. Prepared by the Polish Foreign Affairs Ministry.

The draft treaty focuses on the confirmation of the international legally-binding character of the Polish-German border in its current shape.

This step inagurated Poland's participation in the Two-Plus-Four talks on the unification of Germany.

The Polish Foreign Affairs Ministry will also convey appropriate notes to governments of the four powers taking part in the negotiations.

Czech Premier Petr Pithart Winds Up Visit

Signs Environmental Agreement

LD2804211590 Warsaw PAP in English 1739 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Bielsko-Biala, April 28—An agreement between Poland and Czechoslovakia aimed at reducing pollution of rivers in the border area and preventing their accidental pollution was signed in Wisla (Southern Poland) today following a few-day session of plenipotentiaries of the two governments.

Experts of the two sides worked out a joint programme of organizational and technological undertakings to prevent the pollution.

During the talks in Wisla however the sides have not reached agreement on compensation for the accidental pollution by Czechoslovakia of the Odra river in 1986. The Polish side estimated the losses sustained then for over 100 million clearing roubles but the Czechoslovak side is not willing to accept the sum.

Pleniptoentiary of the minister of environmental protection of the Czech and Slovak Federative Republic Zdenek Kopecny said that the issue will be discussed and solved during direct talks between the premiers of both governments.

Concludes Visit

LD2804180590 Prague CTK in English 1528 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw April 28 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovakia's interest in promoting the best possible relations along the Czechoslovak-Polish border was expressed by Czech Premier Petr Pithart at the close of his visit to Poland which brought him to Klodzko, south-west Poland, today.

He met with representatives of the Walbrzych Voivodship who appreciated the recently signed agreement on cooperation in environmental protection as an expression of expanding contacts between the Walbrzych and East Bohemian regions.

Farmers Block Roads in Eastern Poland

LD2704152990 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1435 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Protesting farmers from the Biala Podlaska Voivodship are blocking Road No. 2 from the border with the Siedlce Voivodship as well as the important crossroads on that road—that is the crossroads with the Lublin-Bialystok road No. 19. The crossroads in Losice, Konstantynow, and Janow Podlaski are also blocked—making a northern roundabout route around the blocked segment of international road No. 2 and the approach to the frontier crossing point in Terespol impossible.

Due to a blockade of the Radzyn Podlaski-Wisznice road, it is also impossible to bypass the blockade from the south. The protesters have announced that the blockade will remain until representatives of the government arrive for talks. They do not want to talk to the local management.

The Ministry of Transport and Shipping points out that the blocking of public roads is contrary to regulations and calls upon the organizers and those taking part in the blockade of the roads to give up this form of protest without delay.

Sejm Session, Debates Continue in Warsaw

Skubiszewski Replies to Deputies

LD2704200590 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1730 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Report by parliamentary correspondent Aleksandra Jakubowska]

[Excerpt] Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. The Sejm debate on Poland's foreign policy ended today. Several speakers took the floor. They focused mainly on issues related to the unification of Germany and fears connected with this process.

Krzysztof Skubiszewski took the floor again. In his speech, which lasted more than an hour, he referred to many points of the deputies' discussion, expressed his opinion on particular proposals, and answered questions. He did not agree with the opinion of one deputy, who claimed that foreign policy expresses the views of one group. The minister said that the government conducts a general state policy which is above parties.

Professor Skubiszewski also announced personnel changes in the Polish diplomatic and consular corps, including the recall of 22 ambassadors from the so-called staff list [nomenklatura].

[Begin Skubiszewski recording] In general, I think that it is a great misunderstanding for former ministers or deputy ministers to hold middle-rank posts, let us put it this way. It is not so bad when they are ambassadors, but when they are in middle-rank posts it does not seem serious. This is only done in search of jobs and money. It is a poison of the past system and it should not exist. [applause]

I arrive at some airports. There is always someone from the embassy to greet me. Someone comes and says his name—I do not know these people well, in fact I did not know these people at all—and it turns out that he is an ex-minister who introduces himself as a counselor. And I say to him: Are you still here? Haven't I recalled you? He gets terrified and replies that I had not recalled him yet. So, I say to him: Sir, it is inadmissable for you to stay here. How is it possible for someone who was a member of the government to become an embassy counselor later? Things like this do not happen anywhere else. There should be some respect for the government. If someone has been a minister, it often is the final destination. [applause]

But these gentlemen do not regard being ministers as the final destination. They regard it as a stepping-stone to a post where they will be paid in hard currency. We used to have such a minister, a very important one, responsible for prices, who wanted to sell us delicious bread rolls. And then he disappeared. [applause and laughter]

However, he did not really disappear. He got a lucrative job as a trade counselor. This is how the past system degraded its own government. It is no surprise that that government disappeared because it had to disappear for various reasons. [applause] [end recording] [passage omitted]

27 Apr Debates Described

LD2704231390 Warsaw PAP in English 2245 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 27—Addressing the Sejm (lower house), which concluded its debate on Poland's foreign policy today, Deputy Adam Michnik said in part:

The forthcoming visit of FRG President Weizsaecker to Poland is an occassion to loudly say three things. The border on the Odra and Nysa rivers is inviolable and will never be the subject of any discussion for Poles. He who wants to change this border, wants to be at war with Poland.

Sejm Discussion

We do not disregard certain dangerous processes taking place in the German states, Michnik went on and pointed to the declarations of the Republican Party in the FRG and to the nationalistic demonstrations in the GDR.

But the picture of Poland embraced by an anti-German phobia is a false one. Polish public opinion has great recognition for such people as President Weizsaecker. Many people in Poland do not think about Germany only in the categories of fear, they think about (Germany) as a neighbour with whom we are linked by joint responsibility for the future of Europe. It may be, that the future European order will depend on Polish-German relations, said Michnik.

In this context, Deputy Tadeusz Kijonka very critically assessed Poland's post-war policy towards the community in Silesia. He mentioned "disintegrating post-Stalinist policy of Edward Gierek who had always treated Silesia as the trump card of his own political ambitions" and devastating effects of the so called "family unification" action.

Kijonka called on the authorities not to regard emigrees from Silesia, Mazurian, Warmian and Kashubian regions finally lost, but to extend a hand to them and to create conditions for honest cooperation with them.

Kijonka pointed also to the complicated Polish-Czechoslovak relations marked by burdens of the past.

Adam Michnik referred to the dramatic issue of Lithuania. He pointed to the dangerous course of developments and appealed to Poland's premier and minister of foreign affairs to make the government make everything possible to arrest such a course of events and to replace threats with dialogue, and the blockade with negotiations.

Skubiszewski's Answers

While referring to these issues, Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski said that:

—The foreign policy does not reflect opinions of only one group. The government pursues state-wide and nation-wide policy.

—Coordination of foreign policy between the government and the president: before the president's trip to the USSR, the minister and the premier held a talk with him. Discussed were the drafts of basic documents which were then signed in Moscow.

—Lithuania: The minister refused to say more than in his expose. Poland came out with the proposal of mediation and goodwill mission. We do not lose from sight the issue of Polish minority in Lithuania, the minister said. The minister has met with his Lithuanian counterpart and presented to him a postulate of making Polish the official language in some districts.

—Fears of the revival of "Rapallo Spirit" (German-Soviet agreement): In the minister's opinion there are no such fears today, but this was one of the motives of his firm objection, from the very beginning, concerning the neutrality of Germany. A neutral Germany could be lured into the snare of the great politics in the East which "would march upon us."

—Cadre, changes: The minister said that 22 ambassadors of the so called nomenklatura had been recalled from their posts. He admitted that the procedure of nominating diplomats is slow and determined by a number of aspects. First of all by the lack of proper candidates. Washington, Rome, the Holy See and Rabat will be manned (with new people) soon. Skubiszewski said that today he talked to a candidate for the ambassador to Tel Aviv who of health reasons had to withdraw, and with candidates to Budapest and Seoul.

The Sejm approved Minister Skubiszewski's reports on Poland's foreign policy delivered yesterday.

Old Age and Disability Pensions

The second major topic discussed by the House was old age and disability pensions regulations. Before deputies reviewed appropriate draft laws, the House expressed its stand on the decisions of the constitutional tribunal on the discordance of some of regulations of several old age and disability pensions laws, adopted several years ago, with the Constitution.

The chief issue here was the fact that regulations provided that the base for the calculation of old age and disability pensions was increased by one per cent for each year over twenty years of employment, but only in people's Poland, and not earlier.

The Sejm found the tribunal's judgement as justified and made necessary amendments to the draft law on the amendment of some of the regulations concerning old age pensions.

The deputies came out in favour of a general restructuring of the present defective and complicated system of old-age and disability pensions.

A discussion on draft regulations concerning old-age and disability pensions continued late in the evening. Tomorrow's daily agenda provides for a continuation of the discussion.

The Sejm did not adopt a deputies' draft law permitting radio broadcasts of electoral programmes. The law was to make it possible to carry on electoral campaign to rural councils using not only the state network of radio stations but also those possessed by parties, groupings and institutions presenting candidates.

The Sejm made minor amendments to the law on changes in the organization and operation of cooperatives having postponed till June 30 the date of finding out what property of the coopertive union was handed over to other persons and when this took place.

Senate Meets

The Senate also held a meeting here today. A many-hour discussion focused on the so-called "police" laws adopted recently by the Sejm.

The Senate decided not to voice any reservations to the laws. At the same time it adopted a resolution which suggested a parliamentary extraordinary commission should be set up to present till the end of 1990 a report on the course of reforms in the internal ministry and conclusions concerning legislative initiatives in this field.

Also today, the Senate adopted a resolution on the Katyn crime. (The abridged text of the resolution is given separately)

The Senate shortened its planned three-day meeting and wound up the debates tonight.

Katyn Resolution Unanimously Approved

LD2804105790 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 0808 GMT 28 Apr 90

["Text" of Sejm Resolution on Katyn massacre, read by Sejm Speaker Mikolaj Kozakiewicz at meeting of the Polish Sejm in Warsaw—live relay]

[Excerpts] Ladies and gentlemen, I would now like to return for a moment to the resolution, which I have now received in the form of changes approved by all the deputies submitting the resolution. I will read the text of the resolution once again, and we will take a vote.

The resolution on Katyn of the Sejm of the Polish Republic of 28 April 1990:

As a consequence of the entry into the territory of the Polish Republic of detachments of the Red Army, allied with the Third Reich, in September 1939, a considerable number of Polish soldiers were captured. Half a year later, around 15,000 Polish prisoners, the decided majority of whom were officers, were murdered in a duplicitous manner. To this day, only one place of their execution, the Katyn Forest near Smolensk, is known.

From the beginning, the Polish public knew that, despite denials and various manipulations, responsibility for this crime rested with the Soviet Union. Now, 50 years after the event, the Polish nation has been officially informed by the highest authorities of the USSR that the crime against Polish prisoners of war was committed by organs of the NKVD [People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs], under the direct supervision of Beria.

The Sejm of the Republic believes that the stance taken by the authorities of the USSR is an important step toward understanding and reconciliation between the

Polish nation and the nations of the Soviet Union. These nations have also sustained many victims and experienced much suffering. We express our sympathy to them and also solidarity regarding their aspirations for freedom, justice, and democracy.

The stance taken by the USSR authorities is a milestone in the history of relations between Poland and the USSR, but it does not yet constitute the conclusion of tragic problems in these relations. The site of the killing and final resting place of Polish prisoners from the Starobelsk and Ostashkov camps remains an unexplained issue. The issue of criminal actions against Polish civilians in the territory of the Polish Republic occupied by the Red Army in 1939 and then, once again, between 1944 and 1945, remains open. Hundreds of thousands of Polish citizens, including thousands of soldiers of the Home Army, were imprisoned; one and a half million people were deported to the interior of the USSR; the leaders of the Polish underground state were unjustly convicted, and to this day we do not know their final resting place.

The Polish nation and state are interested in friendly relations with the Soviet Union. They can develop only on a foundation of truth. That is precisely why the Sejm of the Republic is convinced that the Government of the Soviet Union, after the statement on the Katyn crime, will also clarify other, previously unexplained issues and will address the problem of compensation. The whole truth about the past will be a reason for hope, understanding, and reconciliation for Poles.

[Passage omitted—two deputies propose amendments. One requests the deletion of "under the direct supervision of Beria" from the resolution, since the crime also encompassed Stalin and others. Another deputy suggests that the reference to the unknown resting places of leaders of the Polish underground is inaccurate, as it only concerns General Okulicki and Jan Jankowski, military and civilian leaders of the underground state respectively, whereas the graves of the rest are known. It is proposed that the reference should be to "some leaders of the Polish underground state." The amendments are voted on: The first amendment, removing the reference to Beria, is rejected; the second amendment is passed]

The whole resolution will now be voted on. Who is for the resolution on Katyn? Please raise your hands and press the key. Who is against?

[Announcer] Three hundred three deputies are present.

[Kozakiewicz] Who is abstaining? Unanimous. [applause]

Jaruzelski Meets With Social Groups on Katyn

LD2804194390 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 0615 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Report on meeting on Katyn documentation between President Wojciech Jaruzelski and various social groups held at Belweder Palace on 25 April]

[Excerpts] Maybe it was a coincidence, but it is worth noting that the recent meeting at Belweder Palace took place on a historic day strictly associated with Katyn. It was precisely on the night of 25 April 1949 that Molotov summoned the ambassador of the Polish government-in-exile in London and handed him a note concerning the severing of Soviet-Polish relations. The note stated that Poland was cooperating with Hitler in demanding that the Soviet Union explain the crime. Opening the discussion, President Wojciech Jaruzelski said the following:

[Begin Jaruzelski recording] We met on 11 November last year in somewhat similar company to today's meeting, precisely on the issue of the Katyn crime. Today we meet under different circumstances and, (?I think), in a different mood because an exceptionally important breakthrough has happened in this respect which today allows us to speak of this crime, [words indistinct] circumstances to speak about its perpetrators, to speak about its repercussions in a different dimension, and following from this to discuss what happens next, and what we should do next, both in the formal sense and in the sense of making use of the documentation which is currently in our possession, and also what to do in the sense of political and educational action (?in) certain moral values. Above all, regarding the acts themselves, the materials which are here in front of us, it will be necessary to decide which is the most appropriate method in which to use these materials and the most correct place to hold them, to store them, where they should be held. We have the guaranteed, declared goodwill of the Soviet side, of Mikhail Gorbachev, to further searches in Soviet archives for new documents, which will further magnify all the circumstances of the crime; second, the search for the graves of Polish POWs, who were imprisoned in the Starobelsk and Ostashkov camps; and finally the matter of responsibility, which should also be a further element of these searches and measures. There are various proposals suggested to me in a more or less official form concerning the storage of these documents and their further utilization.

I would like to refer here to a proposition which was put forward by Professor Gieysztor today, to think about some kind of social committee which will in a certain sense coordinate various kinds of actions currently undertaken by both historical institutions and social organizations, for example the Katyn Families organization. I think that such coordination is correct (?if) the chairman of that committee, the eminent Polish historian Professor Stefan Kieniewicz, will accept that proposition. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Referring to the course of discussion, President Wojciech Jaruzelksi said, among other things:

[Begin Jaruzelski recording] One should recall the long road from the crime itself to the act of admitting who comitted it. It was a very long road, with exceptionally difficult consequences in the state, political, moral, and psychological sense. One must stress here—I think that justice and honesty require this—that Polish emigres, the opposition of that time, and the church in particular have had a great moral contribution in this respect.

At the same time, I would also like you to be aware that also among the authorities then, over years and decades, there was a deep lack of satisfaction regarding the final explanation of that matter. (?As I said), we wanted very much to obtain from the Soviet Union documents proving that it really was a Hitlerite crime. Such talks were conducted, and I held many of them personally. Give us evidence which will make it possible to convince us and convince the public that it had really been done by Hitler's men. Unfortunately, the reply was always that there was nothing else and that the evidence arising from the work of the commission [word indistinct] was not sufficiently convincing and strong: You believe Hitler's men more, etc.

I want to stress that for many years homage was paid to the memory of the victims of Katyn [words indistinct]. The military attache in Moscow, since the seventies, paid homage and laid flowers. In any event, this was the case immediately after the war. Only in the worst so-called Stalinist era, in the early fifties, was this given up. That is why it is extremely important that today we can approach this issues in this way; this is the fruit of expectations, and above all it is the recognition of the times we live in, both on the Soviet and Polish sides conditions appeared to bring this matter to this stage.

I want to stress the importance of the declaration of three years ago and the work of the commission, which on the Polish side was led by Professor Maciszewski. If it was not for the pressure of the (?facts) through publications, various speeches, pressure which permeated through to certain Soviet spheres and which created impulses for them to deal with this subject.... I agree fully with Chairman Drawicz' conclusions that one should appropriately express the respect and thanks to all those Soviet people and scholars who, against the tide, undertook research and tried to clarify to the end this serious crime.

It is necessary to stress, however, that without Gorabchev and perestroyka this issue could have waited another 50 years. [Words indistinct] This is not an easy issue for the Soviet leadership and the Soviet president, in this difficult and complicated situation of in-depth reconstruction. The documents here before us must be used in the best possible way. I see that several institutions will compete here [words indistinct]. I would like [words indistinct]; we will return to this issue, but there is no doubt that this is one of the places where the originals should be placed—I stress the originals. [passage indistinct] There is a need to appoint a commission which will coordinate these matters and find the best solutions.

It is very important for us to be fully aware and for the public to be made aware that the Soviet side, that Mikhail Gorbachev, in a jointly signed communique on the visit, expressed deep regret and sympathy and stressed the responsibility of the murderers who committed this crime. One also needs to look more broadly on the system which brought this about. Also, in the communique and the declaration—I have these documents in front of me—there is a statement that it is important to conduct to the end the work aimed at the return of the historical truth about the difficult aspects of Polish-Soviet relations and Polish-Russian relations. As is known, the Polish prosecutor general applied last year to the Soviet prosecutor general to begin appropriate proceedings. We will also continue to watch this issue, which is connected with the matter of responsibility and which in this context should be expressed [words indistinct]. It is extremely important to close this page [words indistinct]. Regarding the commemorations of the crime [words indistinct] the inscription on the monument has been changed, the Polish version is expected, the Russian inscription is already there; we should work quickly on this.

The next thing should be to build a monument. This work should involve, to a different degree, circles being party to it and it should be a national matter. It is hard for me to say whether it is possible to make this cemetery exterritorial somehow. Generally speaking, there is the problem of how to commemorate Stalinist crimes against the Polish nation. Senator Reiff put forward a proposal on this. We will continue to explain and examine.... At the same time, I propose that (?while talking) at present about these matters, bringing them to surface, and stressing (?what) is just and justified both politically and morally, Hitlerite crimes cannot disappear from our field of vision.

The roll call in Katyn was an important event both politically and emotionally. I think that all of us who were present there experienced exceptionally moving moments. The roll call, the entire scenery contributed to that, as well as the content of the appeal. In all modesty, I can say that I provided my small contribution to the wording of the appeal.

Let me quote the final fragment: There are wrongs and crimes for which nobody and nothing can compensate. There are tears which nothing can ever dry. There are reasons and causes which one cannot understand nor explain. Finally, there are feelings to which we cannot give orders [as heard]. But above all there is life and there is the future, there is responsibility for humanity and for one's nation.

Therefore, while remembering history and graves, which marked its course and the grave above which we are standing today, while paying tribute to the dead who gave up their lives for us to live in freedom, we give testimony to the truth. And let the truth straighten our roads and let reason lead our steps. History spreads a veil of forgetfulness over the facts. It is up to the living to save them from being forgotten, to save them not for hatred but for science, for memory, and as a warning.

Let our common fate of inhabitants of one earth unite us. Never again war, never again torture, and never again Katyn. [end recording]

Skubiszewski Interviewed by SFRY Paper

AU2704142390 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 21-22 Apr 90 p 6

[Vladimir Matovic report on interview with Foreign Minister Krzusztof Skubiszewski in Belgrade; date not given: "We Do Not Applaud the Authorities"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] We reminded our interviewee that European topics of discussion could include the talks that Polish President Jaruzelski recently had in Moscow. We asked him whether any special agreements had been reached on this occasion concerning the problem of the unification of the two Germanys and negotiations known as the "two-plus-four" talks.

We are preparing to participate in the talks between six countries according to the "two-plus-four" formula and this involves the essential side of the issue of a united Germany establishing the Polish-German border. We have prepared a proposal for a bilateral agreement between Poland and a unified Germany. This project of ours will be presented to the representatives of the six countries at the appropriate moment.

Borders, Above All

We want to begin our relations with a united Germany by eliminating the issue of the Polish-German border. Discussions are still being conducted on this issue in West Germany and many people speak about this as a still open question. This stand is also reflected in German legislation, in fact in the legislation of the FRG. German courts and other administrative bodies treat the former German territories, which Poland acquired on the basis of the Potsdam Agreement, as German territories. This must be stopped because this could have catastrophic consequences. These relations must be normal. Even though we signed an agreement with Germany a full 20 years ago, these issues have still not been normalized. Because of this, we cannot have the kind of good and normal relations with Germany that we want, because we would like to have very good relations with this country.

I think that Poland and Germany could have joint interests, but this cannot happen if the question of the Polish-German border is kept open. This will have fatal consequences for all of Europe, the Polish minister reemphasized. If this question is left unresolved, then a myriad of other territorial issues will appear which would mean an end to European cooperation.

We reminded our interviewee that after a joint Polish-Soviet statement was issued recently, the obvious stand could be perceived in the announcement made by Jaruzelski after talks with Gorbachev "that the Soviet Union and Poland have always been and remained in harmony." At the same time, it was assessed in the first commentaries that there was "a rapprochement in relations between the two capitals."

Our present relations with the Soviet Union are normal interstate and intergovernmental relations. They are now devoid of any ideological approach or element. Therefore, many issues are now being put on the agenda which have been unresolved for years. This is where I see the rapprochement—in the resolution of questions that have remained since the war. Gorbachev's gesture of admitting the massacre in the Katyn forest was particularly noticed and welcomed by the public. A Polish parliament representative has already announced that "the question of compensation for the families remains open, as well as the issue of bringing those responsible to court." We asked our interviewee about the measures that his government has taken and those to come.

These issues have not yet been raised. I have been raising them for the last three years in the Consultative Council and last September during talks with minister Shevardnadze.

The issue of compensation for people who suffered losses during the war is a very difficult issue. Poland is nevertheless raising it. [passage omitted]

[Matovic] Has the situation in Lithuania in a certain way hindered the improvement in relations between your country and its great Eastern neighbor?

[Skubiszewski] Considering the state of affairs at this moment, on this day, the situation in Lithuania should not be any obstacle in Polish-Soviet relations. This is undoubtedly a serious issue. It is linked to our relations with Lithuania and the people of this country and also to our relations with the USSR. Our stand is that Poland has recognized the fact that special Lithuanian statehood has been proclaimed, which does not indicate international recognition, too. This is because at the moment Lithuania does not meet the conditions for being recognized internationally as a separate state. We think that Lithuania, that is to say the Lithuanian people, has every right to self-determination, including separate statehood. [passage omitted]

[Matovic] One question unconnected at the moment with your present diplomatic post but within the framework of your long career as professor of comparative law: How do you view the solutions for the explosion of national questions and intolerance, particularly in Eastern and Central Europe? Does the issue of the German ethnic minority exist in your country and to what extent are you familiar with the problem of Albanians in our country?

[Skubiszewski] [passage omitted] Does a German minority exist in Poland? Yes and no. It exists because there are people who consider themselves to be Germans, particularly in Silesia. Then there are people who think that they have links with German culture and German tradition, and we fully respect this. Thus, in the joint declaration that was signed in 1989 by Polish Prime

Minister Mazowiecki and FRG Chancellor Kohl, specific decisions were endorsed on the rights of Poles in Germany and the rights of people who have German origins, German nationality, German language, or German culture in Poland.

However, we cannot agree to the artificial creation of the problem of the German ethnic minority, in the sense that there is a group of Germans in Poland who advocate being joined to Germany, which would raise the question of the border. In the same way, we cannot consider as members of the German minority those Poles who could acquire German nationality according to German law because one thing concerns state affiliation while national, linguistic, and ethnic affiliation is something quite different. [passage omitted]

Vice Minister of Interior on Reforms

AU2504082690 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 21-22 Apr 90 p 4

[Interview with Krzysztof Kozlowski, vice minister of internal affairs, by Ewa Szemplinska; place and date not given: "A Suspended State"]

[Excerpts] [Szemplinska] Allow me to ask a question that is trivial but nevertheless highly interesting: When can we expect an improvement in the state of public security? The feeling of danger is making people stand in line for goods once again—this time for mace, which several shops in Warsaw have run out of recently. Will we be able to live better and more safely if we go about armed to the teeth?

[Kozlowski] I am happy that one has to wait in order to obtain a weapon, for although the possession of such a weapon is not reprehensible and society does have the right to protect itself, permits to hold these weapons have been issued far too carelessly in the past. After all, these are weapons which could be used for criminal purposes (we have such information), and it is not difficult to convert them into firearms. For these reasons, I would like the rules governing the issue of permits to be made more stringent. [passage omitted]

[Szemplinska] The Interior Ministry seems to be disintegrating, which is good. So is the militia, which is not so good.

[Kozlowski] It is obvious that the process of disintegration will cover everything and everyone, and the present period of transition is exacerbating the situation. The Sejm has passed only some of the legislation. We do not know if the Senate will approve it. We do not know when the president will sign the executive regulations, whom the premier will appoint chief of police, and when he will do so. And people will not be able to stand the present suspended state indefinitely, not even the best candidates for policeman. Of course, the Ministry is losing people who ought to leave it (by the way, these people will get very good pensions). Also leaving the Ministry are people who, to put it mildly, are unable to find a place for themselves in the new reality. But very good and much needed chemists, electronics experts, computer experts, and rank and file policemen are also leaving.

[Szemplinska] How big are the personnel shortages in the police department?

[Kozlowski] About 20 percent on a national scale, and 30 percent in Warsaw, so that is a lot.

But would a full militia complement, a total of between 80,000 and 100,000 policemen, be enough? I think it would be, because it is enough in countries whose size and population are similar to Poland's. However, the deployment of the Polish police is catastrophic. We have an enormous head office and voivodship offices, we have an enormous number of policemen involved in red tape and statistics, we have enough policemen engaged in investigations, but we do not have enough men to deal with prevention and have no contacts with the people. We do not have enough policemen in the streets.

[Szemplinska] What is your vision of the Interior Ministry?

[Kozlowski] It should be a pyramid with a sharp apex and broad base, the base consisting of the district policeman, who would be closely acquainted with the residents of his beat. But I see it is going to be difficult to restructure the Ministry in this way. I can see this pyramid "swelling" and old ministerial structures putting up a fight in order to stay.

[Szemplinska] What is your remedy?

[Kozlowski] Most of all, we must have a small, civilian Interior Ministry with 1,000 people, not the 7,800 we have now. Just like any other normal ministry, it should have several independent branches—the Police, Office of State Protection, Fire Service, and Border Defense Force. The Ministry should merely supervise all these components. The Militia was totally deprived of independent status inside the Ministry, and the commander in chief of the Militia was purely a figurehead because he had no right to issue promotions and punishments, relocate employees, and so on.

[Szemplinska] The Ministry was, and perhaps still is, a state within a state, and the Militia is merely the executor of Ministry orders. Therefore the Militia's status was logical.

[Kozlowski] That is even more reason why the "pyramid" I mentioned must be reconstructed and the Police must be made independent. The Police is to serve public security, not the Ministry. I think that is obvious. [passage omitted]

Government 27 Apr News Conference Reported

LD2704181790 Warsaw PAP in English 1603 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 27—"The recurring rumour that I am to become an ambassador to Hungary is equally 'true' as the previous rumour that I was to take over as the head of radio and television," stated Government Spokeswoman Malgorzata Niezabitowska in reply to one of the questions put today at her weekly press conference.

The conference, also attended by secretary of state at the Ministry of Finance Marek Dabrowski, dealt with self-government elections, the economic stabilization program, upcoming foreign visits, prosecuting Stalinist crimes, disturbances in trade with the USSR, relations with Lithuania, the alternative economic program of the SDRP Social Democracy Party, the future of the headquarters of the former Polish United Workers Party Central Committee.

Before Elections

In a statement on self-government elections Niezabitowska stressed the significance of this "next civil act" for democratic transformations. "We began building democracy from the roof, now is the time to build the foundations," she said. Stating that many citizens were reluctant to assume responsibility after 45 years of communist rule, she announced that in some voivodships there were too few people willing to run for local government seats.

Months of Stabilization Program

Secretary of State Dabrowski delivered a statement on the results of the stabilization program. Speaking about threats to it he spoke about prospects of switching to hard currency trade with CEMA countries and the phenomenon of so-called inflation fragility wich poses a threat of a resurgence of hyper-inflation. "Exaggerated optimism and lack of faith in the program's effectiveness are both ruinous," he stated. He added that there still was a long way to the zloty's full convertibility.

Prosecution Stalinist Crimes

"Crimes of genocide do not fall under the statute of limitation," Niezabitowska stated, adding that the Ministry of Justice was drawing up a draft law changing the structure of the main commission for investigating Nazi crimes to allow it to make investigations and collect materials on Stalinist crimes and crimes of this nature committed by Poles during the Stalinist era. Speaking about compensation, Niezabitowska stated that they should be granted to the families of the murdered Polish officers and all those wronged by the USSR.

Relations with Lithuanian

"Premier Mazowiecki has not yet replied to Landsbergis' letter in which the latter asked for support for Lithuania's strivings." The government spokeswoman said. Lithuania has so far not asked Poland for economic assistance. The Polish government is ready to favourably consider such a request according to its possibilities of Lithuania asks for aid. According to Niezabitowska.

Chernobyl

Four years after the catastrophe in Chernobyl Poland ranks 10th in Europe as concerns contamination caused by the nuclear failure. Contamination of food in Poland is the same as before Chernobyl, Niezabitowska revealed.

Baker-Weizsaecker

The spokeswoman presented the program of the visits of West German President Richard von Weizsaecker to take place May 2 and the visit of U.S. Secretary of State James Baker on May 6. She stressed the big weight which the Polish authorities attach to both visits. She pointed to the symbolic significance of the arrival of Baker to take place immediately following the Two Plus Four meeting.

Can a Pole-Civilian Be Head of the Warsaw Treaty

Answering this question asked by PAP journalist, Niezabitowska said that she did not see any obstacles, particularly in the context of the necessity of turnover on this post postulated by Foreign Minister Skubiszewski in the Sejm. The post can be assumed even by a civilian. In Poland, civilians perform already high functions in the National Defence and the Interior Ministries, she said.

Economic Program of the Social-Democracy of the Republic of Poland

Dabrowski deemed an alternative socio-economic programme forwarded by the Social-Democracy of the Republic of Poland another "concept of wishful thinking." He did not deny it coherence and interesting ideas, pointing however to demagogy in some items of this programme.

What Will Happen to Graduates?

Only about 160,000 jobs wait for about 340,000 school leavers this year (under the so-called labour contracts). Niezabitowska said that the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy prepares a special programme to encourage factories to employ graduates. The ministry prepares also many steps to encourage graduates to engage in private economic activity. A foundation to employ graduates is also to be set up.

May 3rd Is a Holiday

Yesterday, the Polish president signed the law on establishing May 3rd a state holiday.

Government-Walesa

Answering a question asked by PAP journalist about current relations of Walesa with the government, Niezabitowska said that the government cooperation with

Walesa went on well. Tensions occur as in every cooperation but this is normal. She voiced satisfaction at the election of Walesa Solidarnosc chairman.

As goes for the course and results of the congress in Olivia [as received], the government is glad that "Solidarnosc" had not *taken a solely demanding stand but also feels co-responsible for the transformations in Poland.*

Vistula Operation After 40 Years

Asked about the Vistula operation, the government spokeswoman explained that the action was aimed at resettling the Ukrainian population from south-eastern Poland. At present nothing stands in the way of fully shedding light on these issues, especially following the opening of the archives of the former PUWP [Polish United Workers' Party] and Ministry of Internal Affairs. The Ukrainian population can return, property issues are the only problem, Niezabitowska stated.

Potatoes and trade with USSR

Several questions concerned the problem of surplus potatoes in Poland. Asked whether this was the result of a kind of punishment of Poland by the USSR which is not importing potatoes, Niezabitowska and Dabrowski replied that they did not perceive this as penalty. The Soviet Union's import and exports capacity is shrinking rapidly and the surplus is the consequence of disturbances in trade with our eastern neighbour. This is one of the reasons, the others being high prices of potatoes last autumn and producers' expectations as to prices this spring.

Other Issues

The building of the former PUWP Central Committee is not suitable for a library of Warsaw University owing to adaptation costs but the money obtained from leasing this building could replenish the budget of the Ministry of Science for the development of Warsaw schools of higher education.

Bonds issued in the period between the two World Wars could, in the opinion of Dabrowski, basically be respected "though this is a complicated problem like property issues."

Niezabitowska denied that the premier planned to dismiss Construction Minister Paszynski at the demand of the OPZZ [National Confederation of Trades Unions]. The minister is working on a report on the state of construction which the government will review soon.

In reply to a question from PAP, Niezabitowska stated that cadre changes at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were taking place too slowly.

Referring to the much publicized investigation into the arson of the flat of GAZETA WYBORCZA's journalist Jerzy Jachowicz, Niezabitowska stated that nothing new has surfaced regarding the case. She said that the flat of a former militiaman was set fire to in Pruszkow near Warsaw yesterday but no one was hurt.

OPZZ 27 Apr News Conference Reported

LD2704221690 Warsaw PAP in English 2135 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 27—According to a draft of the All-Poland Alliance of Trade Unions (OPZZ) new statutes trade unions affiliated to it will consolidate their branch nature, Alfred Miodowicz told a press conference held here today in connection with the forthcoming OPZZ congress.

This is an optimum system if we want to remain a trade union movement and not a social one or a party, stressed he.

Answering numerous questions, the OPZZ chairman said:

If there is more than one trade union in a plant they should either cooperate or compete with each other. I share an opinion voiced by Lech Walesa yesterday on the need to consolidate cooperation between trade unions.

It should be strange, if in the present situation when we are threatened with unemployment and when living standards of many families have gone down, our trade unions did not come in defence of working people. We want to do this on the centennial of May Day.

The OPZZ have never been a pro-government trade union. It was not such under Jaruzelski, Messner, Rakowski and it is not today. This does not mean that we are basically against the Mazowiecki government. I definitely do not persuade people to strike. Today it would be a suicide for plants and crews, but sometimes one has to be seen on the street.

In my opinion, if one rejects a political envelope, the Solidarnosc 80 programme is a trade union one and is similar to ours.

Miodowicz did not give an unequivocal answer when asked whether he wanted to run for OPZZ chairman.

Solidarity Peasant Party Not To Attend Congress

LD3004011890 Warsaw PAP in English 2003 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 29—The Polish Peasant Party "Solidarity" (PSL "Solidarnosc") will not participate in a unification congress, to be held by the Polish Peasant Party (PSL) on May 5. The unification of various currents of the peasant movement at all costs is not possible at present, Jozef Slisz, the acting chairman of the party, said at today's session attended by regional activists of the organization.

However, Slisz did not exclude cooperation with other currents of the peasant movement both at the lowest level in villages and communes and at the forum of the parliament even in the near future, that is after elections to local government.

The session also focused on preparations for the elections in May. The party which bases on Solidarity ethos will take part in the elections in coalition with citizens' committees.

At the session the party presented a draft programme of farming policy for the first time. Its main assumptions being free market, privatisation but also state interventionism.

Statement on Local Government Elections

LD2704134490 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1205 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Statement by government spokesman Malgorzata Niezabitowska]

[Text] Exactly a month from today, on Sunday 27 May, we go to the polling stations to elect our representatives to the self-management bodies [local government]. We will achieve a further civic act, an act of enormous importance for the changes in the political and economic system that we have been transforming for many months. We began to build democracy in Poland, as if from the roof downward, from the parliament and the governemnt. Such a building of democracy from above, starting with the roof, was a result of the logic of the last period of our history, the dramatic economic situation in which we found ourselves. It demanded from us the creation of a center that would be capable of the (?literal) transformation of the state structures and economic mechanisms.

Now the time has come to construct the foundations. The self-managenent reform is not aimed at weakening the structures of the state, but at strengthening them, said Premier Mazowiecki during his speech in the Sejm in January of this year. This transpires from the fact that the central authority, in order to be efficient, must be a limited authority. It cannot concern itself with everything; this only leads to the laughable results we all know and which will burden us for a long time to come. The only way of limiting central authority while at the same time making it more efficient is to transfer part of its entitlements to the local level. Decisions should be made as close as possible to those they directly affect, and the authors of these decisions should be chosen in democratic elections and should be the best and most compeent representatives of the local societies.

Yesterday, Mr. Stepien, the self-management elections commissioner, recalled in a television appeal that sounded almost dramatic that today, at midnight, the deadline for the nominaiton of candidacies for members of parish councils expires. It is clear from other sources that in certain voivodships there are too few candidates, that interest in the local elections is not great. What does this mean? Above all, I think it reflects the fact that we have not yet removed the mark left on us by 45 years of communist government. This mark, on the one hand, is a lack of faith in one's own strength, linked with a fear of responsibility. On the other hand, it is a conviction that all changes will be fixed for us from above by the central authorities. It is true that much was done to make us doubt whether we were up to things, but after all, we have shown several times over that it is precisely by relying on our strengths and countering all circumstances that we are capable of carrying out great things.

It is true that the nomenklatura system has disaccustomed most of us from taking responsibility on a large scale. So if a group of people who are sufficiently bold and ready to take on responsibility at the highest parliamentary and government levels were found, we believe that those who will boldly take local issues into their hands also will be found.

If we complain about local mafias or the continuing licence of the old nomenklatura, then only the creation of efficient, democratically elected, local self-government can end these activities. If we wish to hold fully democratic parliamentary elections next year, then it is local activity, work in local self-government that will be the best political school and test of abilities for those who wish to represent the nation in parliament. The existence of local self-governments also should favor the shaping of the political landscape in our country.

The government realizes that the electoral law is often difficult to understand and that the competences and spheres of action of future self-governments are not yet fully known. We still have a month to learn about and understand these matters. It requires a certain amount of effort, but this is the foundation laying, and if these foundations are to be strong, some effort must be made.

Lublin Voivoda Recalls Electoral Office Head

LD2404214990 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2000 GMT 24 Apr 90

[Text] The Lublin Voivoda has recalled the director of the voivodship electoral office in Lublin. This is due to accusations in the local press that, as a young security service officer who distinguished himself by his zeal, he interrogated and tortured persons suspected of distributing leaflets threatening the socialist system of the state in Rozkopaczew in 1954.

Timisoara Alliance Holds Founding Rally

Supports Demonstrators

AU2804184090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1636 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 28/4/1990—Saturday, 28 April, the "Capitol" cinema house in Timisoara, hosted the foundation meeting of the "National Alliance for the Proclamation of Timisoara." Free trade union organizations and federations, independent professional and cultural associations, collectivities of enterprises and institutions, political parties such as the NPP-CD [National Peasants Party-Christian Democratic], the NLP [National Liberal Party], the HDUR [Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania], the SDP [Social Democratic Party], the SLP [?Socialist Liberal Party], the political trade union organization "Fraternitatea" [Brotherhood] have adhered to that alliance.

The alliance, the communique read before those present, aims at "establishing an authentic democracy in the country, lessening the state of tension created by perpetuating communist structures." It also specifies that the alliance is in solidarityy with the claims of the demonstrators in the University Square.

Doina Cornea Addresses Rally

AU2904141290 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1000 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] Today at 1000, a mass rally began in Timisoara's Victory Square to present the program of the National Alliance for the Timisoara Declaration. Representatives of the Alliance took the floor. In the presence of more than 20,000 demonstrators, many political and trade unions expressed their support for this declaration, which, so far, has been endorsed by more than 51 free trade unions and free trade union federations, 29 independent professional and cultural associations, 154 collectives from enterprises and institutions, and 24 political parties.

As emphasized in the communique issued last night, the Alliance aims at establishing true democracy in our country and easing the tension caused by the perpetuation of communist structures. The Alliance expressed its solidarity with the demands of demonstrators from Bucharest's University Square.

At this time, the rally in Timisoara's Victory Square continues. Among the speakers who addressed the rally were Mrs. Doina Cornea, Nica Leon, and other representatives of pro-Alliance groups from various counties.

Rally Assails Salvation Front

LD2904122290 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1200 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] There was a mass demonstration in Timisoara, which was organized against the leaders of the National Salvation Front council. The demonstrators, in the spirit of the recent so-called Timisoara declaration, demanded the removal of those leaders who have ever had any kind of function whatever in the Communist Party. Here, naturally, they are thinking first and foremost of President Iliescu. According to on-the-spot reports, there have been similar demonstrations in several places around Timisoara.

Wants 10-Year Freeze on Nomenklatura

AU2904191290 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1700 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] According to ROMPRES, at today's rally in Timisoara, Mr. George Serban, Timisoara Society vice president, read a protest memorandum of the National Alliance for the Timisoara Declaration, expressing solidarity with the peaceful demonstration in the Bucharest University Square and demanding, in line with Point 8 of the Timisoara declaration, that the former Communist nomenklatura withdraw from the country's political life for a period of 10 years. Likewise, the memorandum asks, among other things, that all files compiled by the Securitate during the period of the dictatorship—for political (?dissidence) and anticommunist activities—should be handed over to the citizenry; it also demands that steps should be taken to reorganize the bodies of the Prosecutor's Office.

The National Alliance for the Timisoara Declaration requests weekly broadcasting time on central Free Romanian Television and wants an immediate clarification of circumstances connected with the 22 December 1989 events.

According to ROMPRES, a large number of foreign journalists were present in the Timisoara Opera Square, including a substantial number of journalists, photo journalists, and cameramen from Hungarian television.

Rally Ends Without Incidents

AU2904194590 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1900 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] A big mass rally took place in Timisoara's Opera Square, today between 1000-1300. More than 40,000 citizens from this city, from Timis County, and from other counties—all of whom are supporters of the Timisoara declaration—participated.

Europa [Europe] Society President George Serban read the protest memorandum of the National Alliance for the Timisoara Declaration addressed to the Provisional National Unity Council and Romania's government. Representatives of free trade unions and trade union federations, of professional, cultural, and students associations and organizations, of collectives from enterprises and institutions, and of political parties from the great majority of the country's counties and from Bucharest took the floor and endorsed the principles included in the Timisoara declaration.

The big mass rally ended at 1330 without any unpleasant incidents.

Bucharest Marathon Demonstration Continues

Human Rights Group To Be Set Up

AU2704202090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1915 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 27/4/1990—Friday afternoon, about one thousand people continued to obstruct—for the fifth consecutive day—the main intersection of the capital city—the University Square.

Essentially the same claims: The introduction in the election law of the point 8 of the Proclamation of Timisoara, the postponement of the elections, the abrogations of the laws regarding the radio and television and the press in general.

The news of the day: Under a big panel reading "the League for Human Rights and Winning Back Freedom" registrations were made for the setting up of an organization with the above name. There were 94 supporters by 17.00 hrs.

Anticommunist Slogans Chanted

AU2904142190 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1000 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] About half an hour ago, a rally began in Bucharest's University Square at the initiative of various associations, including the Romanian Antitotalitarian Forum, the People's Alliance, the League of Students, the 16-21 December Association, and others. According to its organizers, the rally wants to mark the setting up of the Alliance for the Victory of the Revolution in Timisoara and takes a stand against the statements made by Messrs. Ion Iliescu and Petre Roman at their joint news conference last Friday night.

More than 1,000 demonstrators—who declared a portion of the Magheru Boulevard as Romania's neocommunism free zone—are chanting anticommunist slogans. The rally continues.

Leader Threatens Hunger Strike

AU2904185990 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1800 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] The eight-day old demonstration in the Bucharest University Square continued with a marathon rally, which began today at noon, at the initiative of nonpolitical organizations. In spite of all this, the rally is of a purely political nature, as the speakers addressing the crowds from the University balcony call for the resignation of Mr. Ion Iliescu and of the government led by Mr. Petre Roman.

Among the speakers were Messrs. Stelian Tanase, Petru Cratia, Ovidiu Moldovan, Stefan Radov, Octav Radulescu, Dumitru Dinca, as well as people from Timisoara, Ploiesti, Constanta, and Galati.

Both the speakers and the demonstrators chanted slogans against the country's current leadership and against the National Salvation Front. The protesters said that they will continue their action until the Electoral Law is modified in accordance with Point 8 of the Timisoara declaration.

Mr. Dumitru Dinca said that if a delegation led by Messrs. Iliescu and Roman does not come to negotiate with the demonstrators in the square by 1200 on 30 April, he would begin a hunger strike.

Around 1900, the representative of a group of Belgian citizens from Brussels addressed the rally; according to his statement, he came to Romania to fight against communism and for the establishment of democracy.

At this time, the rally continues.

Demonstration Continues 30 Apr

AU3004112690 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1000 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] The peaceful demonstration that began a week ago is continuing in University Square. Near the University building, where the great majority of the demonstrators are, slogans for freedom and democracy and against communism and the National Salvation Front are being chanted.

The operation of collecting signatures in support of the Timisoara Proclamation also continues.

With the exception of passenger automobiles and public transportation, the traffic of pedestrians and the ambulance service is normal.

Moldavian Party Opposes Rally

AU2904175990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1631 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 29/4/1990—Iasi hosted a meeting of the Democratic Unity Party of Moldavia attended by the members of its branches in the counties between the Carpathians and the Prut.

Referring inter alia to the events in the University Square in Bucharest, several speakers underlined the necessity of an inquiry among the demonstrators to find out who they really are and who grants them financial aid, to see if they act legally. The speakers said that the demonstrators in the University Square should go back to work or to school which would justify much more convincingly their preoccupation with the country's destiny towards freedom and democracy.

Newspapers Comment on Protest

AU2704171590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1536 GMT 27 Apr 90

["Political Life: Stand Takings on the Demonstration in Bucharest"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 27/4/1990—The demonstration against the government, against the National Salvation Front [NSF] and its presidential candidate, Mr. Ion Iliescu, continues in the University Square in Bucharest.

The press, political personalities, political parties and trade union organizations express various positions on this marathon demonstration, according to their political orientations or sympathies.

The newspaper "ADEVARUL" says that the escalation of violence—which culminated with attacks on and molestation of representatives of the press—shows the common denominator of the street demonstration to be a hidden concerted political game.

The NSF's press organ "AZI" denounces the current state of political tension in Bucharest, which it says to be the work of the Christian and Democratic National Peasants Party, and calls on the police to supply data "on the obscure forces whose sole aim is to push Romania into chaos."

"ROMANIA LIBERA" prints a statement made by demonstrators in Bucharest calling, inter alia, for a ban on any communist-type party, for the removal from managerial posts of those who belonged to the communist nomenklatura, for support to point 8 in the Proclamation of Timisoara.

An appeal is also printed of the Group for Social Dialogue which urges to dialogue between the sides in conflict.

The newspaper "DREPTATEA," the mouthpiece of the Christian and Democratic National Peasants Party, holds the NSF responsible for the deterioration of the political climate in the country and calls for an at-least-two-month postponement of the elections scheduled for May 20.

The Labour Democratic Party firmly disapproves of the demonstration in the centre of the Romanian capital city and expresses "dismay that organizations calling themselves apolitical are stubborn in violating the country's laws, in disturbing public order, with the stated aim to drive out of the election race candidates whom the "historical" parties know have no chance to defeat."

A protest sent by the Free Miners' League in the Jiu Valley denounces the demonstration in Bucharest "whose destabilizing consequences are obvious, preventing a normal continuation of the economic and social life, the public peace we need so much at present."

An appeal to calm, order and tolerance, to prevent the deterioration of an already shaky democracy, is launched by the Centrist Democratic Group.

NSF Holds Election Rally in Bucharest

Iliescu Rejects Concessions

AU2704173090 Paris AFP in English 1705 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, April 27 (AFP)—More than 30,000 people turned out here Friday in a show of support for Romanian leader Ion Iliescu, who refused to make any concessions after a week of growing clamour for his resignation.

Interim president Iliescu, a veteran former communist, told the crowd that there was no question of talks with "demonstrators in University Square, who are manipulated by those who reject a confrontation at the polls".

Though anti-government protestors were still occupying University Square in the city centre, less than three kilometres (one and a half miles) away, there were no reports of the clashes feared earlier.

Large numbers of coaches had brought many of Mr. Iliescu's supporters from their workplaces to Military Academy Square, dominated by a huge monument to the army, just outside the city centre.

The Romanian leader gave a combative speech, punctuated with cries of "Don't give in, Iliescu!" from the crowd. He is standing as a presidential candidate in elections slated for May 20.

Mr. Iliescu spoke out against those "who use as political provocation the name of Timisoara", the Transylvanian town where last December's uprising that toppled dictator Nicolae Ceasescu began.

He said his opponents wanted to change electoral law by demanding the implementation of "point 8" of the "Timisoara declaration", but did not explain what this point in the opposition platform was about.

The demonstration was officially called as an election rally by the ruling National Salvation Front after the opposition had since Sunday turned central Bucharest into a permanent protest site.

Thousands of people have this week taken part in demonstrations against what they describe as a takeover of the Romanian revolution by former officials of the communist party.

In University Square, at about the time Mr. Iliescu was speaking, an orthodox priest was celebrating a mass on an improvised altar for victims of the rebellion against Mr. Ceasescu. The same priest last month sparked protests that forced the authorities to take down a huge statue of Lenin.

A record crowd of more than 10,000 people had stayed in the square until late Thursday night [26 April], shouting slogans such as "Down with Iliescu" and saying they would keep protesting until victorious.

"Communist-free zone!" read a large banner Friday across the square. The protestors want the first free elections in almost half a century to bring in a head of state symbolising a total break with the party Mr. Iliescu served before taking charge of the anti-Ceausescu uprising.

Not once in his 40-minute speech did Mr. Iliescu, long considered in some quarters as Mr. Ceausescu's heir-apparent, criticize the communist party or its ideology, though he had the crowd boo the names of the main opposition parties and their leaders.

After the rally, his supporters heard and acclaimed a declaration calling for "the abandoning of violence".

Miners from the Jiu valley, presented by the regime as a fearsome force, had threatened in an overnight statement to return to the capital to restore order. Thousands of miners descended on Bucharest from the central region in February after protestors put government buildings to the sack.

Defence Minister Viktor Stanculescu appeared to want to keep the Army out of politics. "We are against actions where people try, directly or indirectly, to draw the military into the promotion of political interests," he declared in a statement.

The National Salvation Front has been trying to regain the initiative while its opponents seek to organize at national level a still largely spontaneous movement.

A meeting of all opposition forces is due to be held Saturday in Timisoara, where the organizers plan to set up a "National Alliance of Anti-Communist Struggle."

Prominent former anti-Ceausescu dissident Doina Cornea, who opposes the new order and speaks for the league for the defence of human rights, rallied Friday to the protest movement here.

The protestors had already won the backing Thursday of the National Liberal Party, one of the main opposition groups, led by Radu Campeanu. Representatives of several dozen associations and movements are due to attend the Timisoara meeting, according to the organizers.

Observers here added that new trade unions have been recently formed, particularly in the Bucharest region, and are critical of unions set up immediately after the uprising, saying that they are run by communist cadres of the former regime.

100,000 Attend Meeting

AU2704182790 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1700 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] This afternoon the National Salvation Front [NSF] organized an election meeting in front of the Military Academy that was attended by approximately 100,000 residents of Bucharest, Sibiu, Arad, Timisoara, Arges, Olt, and other counties in our country.

The meeting was opened by Mr. Petre Roman, who emphasized the Front's role from the very first hours of the revolution to eliminate the Ceausescu dictatorship and proceed to the country's democratization.

The NSF candidates for the Senate and Deputies Assembly were then presented to the meeting participants. The floor was then taken by actress Agata Niculescu, NSF Vice President Nicolae Dumitru, journalist Constantin Sorescu, and actor Ion Besoiu.

At this meeting organized in front of the Academy, Mr. Ion Iliescu took the floor. The political atmosphere in our country, he emphasized among other things, is completely different from what the groups of demonstrators at the university and a group of elements in Timisoara, which make use of the name of Timisoara, want to make it look like.

Mr. Ion Iliescu then said that they demand a postponement of the elections. No one in our country wants this, he added. The date for the elections was voted on—with the great majority—by the only representative body of this country—the Provisional National Unity Council; therefore the date of the elections is not negotiable.

The election campaign has started. All of us have to proceed in an (?honest) way in this election campaign and the 20 May elections. This is a call I have made on all political formations.

Mr. Ion Iliescu said that it was no longer possible to include Point 8 of the Timisoara Declaration in an article of the election law, as some people wished.

At the meeting's conclusion, NSF spokesman Mr. Adrian Nastase read the front's appeal to the country, which states among other things:

Democracy must be built on respect for the citizen and for his ability to assess the programs and leaders of the political parties, their words, and especially their actions.

Attempts to intimidate citizens and to create an atmosphere of intolerance and exclusivity, and demands for revising the election law, which was adopted on the basis of the consensus of all political forces within the Provisional National Unity Council, and demands for postponing the election date and for dismissing the government are flagrantly at variance with the elementary requirements of democracy and are an expression of a dictatorial mentality and practice, which the Romanian people—through their December revolution—have rejected for good.

At this time of trial for our young democracy, the appeal calls on all citizens not to react to provocations, not to let themselves get involved in any actions that might perturb public order and the normal progress of the election campaign, and of the elections themselves; they are called upon not to play into the hands of the forces interested in the political destabilization of our country by responding in a calm and lucid way under any circumstances; they are also called upon to reject the use of Item 8 of the Timisoara Declaration for stopping the NSF candidate's participation in the elections as a candidate for the country's presidency—Mr. Ion Iliescu.

Citizens are urged to defend the revolution sacred values: Democracy, freedom, and human dignity.

This appeal stems from the strength of our adherence to the revolution's aims and to our country's interests, the NSF being determined to subject itself to the legally expressed judgment and will of the Romanian people in the 20 May election, the NSF appeal emphasizes.

Election Meeting Ends

AU2704164490 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1500 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] A big election meeting organized by the National Salvation Front [NSF] ended a quarter of an hour ago in Bucharest's Eroilor Square, in front of the Military Academy.

The meeting was attended by more than 10,000 people from Bucharest and throughout the country—Sibiu, Timis, Arad, Caracal—representatives of the miners from Dragasani, [word indistinct], and from other areas.

Mr. Petre Roman made the opening speech, and, at the end of the meeting, the NSF appeal to the people against any violence and for a normal progress in the election campaign and in the elections themselves was read. People were also called upon to preserve calm and order when returning home from the meeting.

At the end of the meeting, Mr. Ion Iliescu took the floor.

Iliescu, Roman Give News Conference

AU2704202190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1912 GMT 27 Apr 90

["Election Campaign: News Conference"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 27/4/1990—After the electoral meeting of the National Salvation Front [NSF] in the Heroes' Square of Bucharest (near the Military Academy), PNUC [Provisional National Unity Council] President Ion Iliescu, NSF candidate for Romania's presidency, and Prime Minister Petre Roman held a press conference on Friday evening at the victory Palace.

The charge regarding neocommunism is a groundless scheme, said President Iliescu specifying that at present it was impossible to practice neocommunism in Romania or in any other East European country.

The difference between today's meeting of the NSF and what is taking place in the University Square is immense, Mr. Iliescu said. The first one was legal, civilized, gathered about 100,000 people; the second is illegal, and is attended by several thousands of people, kept there by those who want to impose the postponement of the elections. This is not possible as the date of the elections was approved by the Provisional National Unity Council with only seven votes against.

The procedure for the accreditation of foreign observers to the elections is simple, added the prime minister, asking those that want to take part in this action to apply for accreditation as soon as possible, indicating also the parts of Romania where they wish to go so that they could be secured appropriate facilities.

Iliescu's Election Campaign Tour Reported

Baia Mare Visit Said Failure

AU2704163890 Bucharest DREPTATEA in Romanian 18 Apr 90 p 3

[Bogdan Marica article: "Present at the National Salvation Front Meeting in Baia Mare"]

[Excerpts] Friday, 13 April, meant a complete failure for Mr. Iliescu in Baia Mare considering the sparse participation of the people in a typical workers' and miners' center.

Just a group of supporters of the National Salvation Front [NSF]—some 1,000 chanters in the first rows—were chanting the well-known slogans. Their idol, sawing the air with his hand on the balcony, was voicing the same out-of-date phrases. [passage omitted]

People had been attracted only out of curiosity, which a few minutes later turned into lack of interest; people joined in discussions pro and con and, to my great surprise, more people turned out to be opponents.

Such a visit—announced with much ado—from one enterprise to the next and traveling in a car with a megaphone, a visit whose climax was this pitiable meeting, left a bitter taste in the mouth of the most beloved NSF-ist. [reference to former address of Ceausescu as 'most beloved' son of Romania]

Visits Cluj, Addresses Rally

AU2804183090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1705 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 28/4/1990—The Romanian revolution was profound and irreversible, assesses Mr. Ion Iliescu, the National Salvation Front's [NSF's] candidate for Romania's presidency. It did not overthrow a tyrant, but a whole system. The NSF, born in the revolution, will accomplish this revolution.

These statements were made in Cluj on Saturday during a big electoral rally attended by tens of thousands of participants, all carrying a rose, the electoral emblem of the NSF (the price of this flower increased tenfold by noon).

Through these statements Mr. Iliescu tries to reject the charges of his political adversaries according to which the NSF would be a neocommunist movement that "confiscated the revolution."

During his electoral tour Mr. Iliescu also stopped in the city of Turda (about 100,000 inhabitants), where another meeting was held attended by thousands of people.

Anti-Iliescu Protest in Cluj

AU2904175890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1705 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 29/4/1990—After the enthusiastic meeting in the centre of Cluj-Napoca Municipality when tens of thousands of people supported Mr. Ion Iliescu's candidature for Romania's presidency, a group of several hundred citizens demonstrated against that candidature, chanting anti-NSF [National Salvation Front], anticommunist and antidictatorial slogans.

Visits Salaj, Addresses Rally

AU2904192990 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1700 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] Mr. Ion Iliescu, presidential candidate of the National Salvation Front [NSF], today continued his electoral campaign in Salaj and Cluj Counties. All his meetings proceeded in a peaceful way, with participants extending a warm welcome to Mr. Ion Iliescu.

A rally took place in the 1 December 1918 Square of Zalau City this morning. In spite of the rain, scores of thousands of inhabitants from the area expressed their support for the NSF platform and for Mr. Ion Iliescu's running in the presidential elections. They chanted for freedom and democracy, for the NSF electoral victory, and for the stabilization of the domestic situation.

* Iliescu Asserts Capability of NSF

90BA0059A Bucharest DIMINEATA in Romanian 10 Apr 90 pp 1, 3, 4

[Unattributed article on President Ion Iliescu's speech; place and date not given: "The National Salvation Front—The Only Group That Has Proven Its Political Capabilities To Exercise Power"]

[Text] The National Salvation Front [NSF] was born in and of the Revolution; it identifies with the values and ideals that inspired the people to boldly rise against the dictatorship and the communist regime, against one of the most powerful terror systems of the modern age.

Recently—on the anniversary of 100 days of the victory of the December Revolution—we paid homage to the heroes of the Revolution, those who sacrificed their lives for its ideals; we expressed our appreciation for all those who carried it out, for the masses of working people who came out into the streets, from Timisoara to Bucharest, the youth who took the lead of the mass movement, and the Army who, united with the people and throwing all its forces to their side, ensured the victory and defended the new revolutionary power.

The December Revolution took place against the background of a profound political and socioeconomic crisis—the deepest crisis in our history—generated by the complete bankruptcy of the communist system. The evident catastrophe toward which the country was advancing ensured, even before the Revolution, a genuine consensus on the need for national salvation. In these conditions, the Romanian Revolution of December was a social explosion without precedent in eastern Europe.

The day of 22 December marked not only the removal of a dictator from power, but also the end of one world and the beginning of a new one. Such a total break with the past, with its ideas, institutions, and practices gave our people the free option to reshape the Romanian society from the ground up, on the basis of democracy. We are currently in the unique and extremely responsible situation of choosing and building our future.

The framework for this choice was outlined by the Revolution itself. It is the framework of modern European civilization. The fundamental values of the path which we must follow were also outlined: freedom, democracy, and human dignity. The main directions of the reconstruction are determined by realities, and the choice is up to the people.

The NSF fleshed out this option and established the main directions of the program for the reconstruction and rejuvenation of the Romanian society in its 22 December platform. Even today, more than 100 days since the victory of the Revolution, the ten points formulated at the time remain the nucleus around which all the options, programs, and directions proposed for our future are crystalizing.

The Front assumed the difficult task of defending the country's stability and precluding Romania's economic, social, and political collapse, bearing the brunt of leading it at a decisive time for the nation. At the same time, it launched a process of democratization and modernization of our society. It may consequently be stated that the NSF is the only group that has proven its political capability to exercise power.

When we consider merely the name of our political group, we note that, during the hot days of the Revolution, the Front succeeded in providing the political mechanism that imparted a special social value to the idea of consensus. Today, few people, even among our political adversaries, can doubt the fact that the consensus achieved in those days was truly our "salvation."

Not being anyone's "vanguard," the Front is primarily a framework for the political organization of cooperation among all social categories and all the forces dedicated to social reconstruction. The "savior" act that the Front proposes as a political mechanism is dialogue among all the forces, harmonization of the interests of the various social categories, and cooperation among them in order to realistically deal with the big and complex problems of our society. Along this line, the Front avoids any dogmatism and keeps open the opportunity of appropriately responding to the requirements of reality.

The NSF does not want to merely "patch up" the old society, but to change it altogether. Malevolent—to say the least—propaganda is trying to cast doubt on the orientations of the Front along this line and on the very nature of the changes proposed.

Thus, it is a false problem whether the NSF is or is not trying to preserve the old regime in a new form, because the NSF is the one that launched the process of destroying the structures of the old regime; it is equally false to question whether the NSF wants to have a political monopoly, because the NSF established and legislated political pluralism; similarly, it is also false to doubt that the NSF really wants a modern, market economy, because the NSF was the one that paved the way for such an economy; and finally, the question whether the NSF really wants to break with communism is equally false, because the NSF not only stated that, but actually did it, and the difference between today's Romania and that of only four months ago is due primarily to the political actions of the NSF. Even the opportunity to be suspected of such a thing and to be publicly criticized is nothing but another expression of the freedom of opinion created by the NSF from the very first days of the Revolution.

The opening toward the future is one of our resolute options. Currently, several options for the future have been emerging in our country through political programs and ideological platforms; some of them are oriented rather to the past, to resuming Romania's history from some point invariably located in the first half of this century. We believe that such a return to the past is neither desirable nor feasible. Today's world does not resemble the world of that time, just as today's Romania is no longer the Romania of the period between the two world wars. We believe that we should be looking not to the past, but to the future, to the world of the end of the 20th century and the beginning of a new millenium. Modernity must be the salient feature of the Front's options, just like the youth of its members and its opening to what is new in science, technology, relations between people, and social and political structures. Our duty is precisely to pull the Romanian society out of the shackles of the outdated structures prevailing in the economy, social life, culture, and politics.

Social democratization is another basic option of the social reconstruction program proposed by the NSF. That requires dismantling the totalitarian decisionmaking structures and replacing them with structures designed to permit broad participation in and access to leadership by all the social categories.

Social democratization also calls for eliminating arbitrariness and unlimited power from the process of decisionmaking and ensuring effective social control of the leadership of the society. It is closely linked to individual freedom and ensuring basic human rights, and can only be achieved by decentralizing the present mechanisms of power by having competent institutions, bodies, and organizations take over their natural decisionmaking functions in accordance with their role in the society and the interests of the citizens.

Social democratization must occur in all social areas: in political and economic leadership, in the administration, and in culture.

To decentralize the leadership and democratize public life it is necessary to increase local autonomy, as a means of encouraging local initiative, asserting the identity and special characteristics of the various communities and collectives, and developing the civic sense of people. Increased local autonomy must be achieved in the administrative, economic, and cultural areas, thus permitting us to both utilize initiatives and material and human resources, and to institute social control at the community level and ensure the people's participation in local management. Along this line, we must see to it that state employees are there to serve the citizens and not the other way round!

The main objective of the NSF's economic policy is to build a modern economy based on market mechanisms.

Our program proceeds from the fact that the transition from the current system of centralized planning to a liberalized and decentralized market system is a gradual process that requires a succession of objectively necessary stages. We propose to travel this distance—which we expect to be difficult and marked by ups and downs—as quickly as possible, but not at any cost and not by taking excessive risks. Our first concern is to ensure a certain economic and social stability for the duration of the transition. Similarly, another procedure that we rule out is introducing mechanisms of free initiative and competition in the Romanian economy at the expense of basic interests and by worsening the living conditions of the millions of people who are earning their bread by honest work.

Quite the opposite: The Front believes that new economic policies must have a pronounced social orientation and must be subordinated to fulfilling the legitimate aspirations of the citizens for continuous improvements in their wellbeing and quality of life. Along this line, we plan to keep under control negative phenomena that may emerge during the transition period, such as inflation and unemployment, and to introduce compensatory measures whenever necessary, in order to protect people's interests.

The Front is in favor of expanding and diversifying the presence of the private sector in the national economy, both through private and state initiative. Under state initiative we include the denationalization of certain enterprises and their transfer to other forms of ownership. However, we are resolutely opposed to unselective denationalization that does not take into account the national interests and those of the people employed in state enterprises.

Thus, we reject the idea of denationalizing certain sectors of the utmost importance for the national economy, which by definition are sectors of public interest: the natural resources, the power system, transportation, the arms industry, and other branches and subbranches of a strategic interest. We believe that, at least during the first stage, while we are still inexperienced in such operations, the enterprises targeted for denationalization should be small and medium-sized production and service enterprises.

At the same time, the NSF believes that the presence of foreign production factors, including foreign capital in our economy is indispensable for raising our technical level and the competitiveness of our products. We are in favor of any form of participation by interested foreign partners, in conditions advantageous to all sides, in the process of reshaping, diversifying, and improving the profitability of the various sectors of the national economy. However, we think that the general interests of the country, the national market, and especially, the labor market should be simultaneously protected, ensuring that national revenues are not lost.

The market mechanism, based on competition and on the free interplay of demand and offer, unaffected by monopolies (including state monopoly), is expected to optimally regulate the production, trade, and consumption. State intervention through specific economic instruments will correct any economic imbalances that may emerge and their negative social and ecological consequences. Essentially, state intervention in market mechanisms will be designed to ensure compatibility between economic efficiency and social equity.

The reshaping of the Romanian economy will be geared on markedly developing the sectors for which we have favorable conditions (agriculture, tourism, and certain industries), their auxiliary branches and subbranches, as well as key branches and technologies. The industry will be replanned and reoriented in keeping with the country's real resources, domestic and foreign demand, and the options and creative capabilities of the Romanian society.

In view of the specific conditions prevailing in our country and the experience of other countries, we believe that we must avoid extreme solutions in agriculture and allow the coexistence of several types of ownership: private, cooperative, state, and mixed.

We are firmly in favor of allocating certain predetermined plots of land to producers in complete ownership, in keeping with the labor resources of each household, as one of the essential conditions of the rebirth of the Romanian villages and of permitting peasants to regain their dignified place in society. Retired cooperative members, mechanics, agricultural specialists, workers of state agricultural enterprises, and the other village inhabitants will also be in a position to acquire agricultural land, in full ownership, provided they cultivate it properly. These ownership rights will have to be accompanied by regulations designed to restrict land sales, to preempt speculations with land or monopolistic tendencies in this area.

Dismantling the large agricultural units capable of ensuring the application of modern, high yield agrotechnical methods on extensive areas, and which represent a considerable portion of our national wealth, is unacceptable. The large production units will be maintained in agriculture in two forms: free associations and cooperatives of producers who will independently decide, without any administrative interference, what to produce, how to market their produce, and how to utilize their profits, and state agricultural units and agro-industrial complexes.

Individual producers will be assisted through a policy that will provide incentives in the form of income and other taxes, loans, and agricultural produce prices. They will be offered machine-tools, seed, fuel, fertilizers, and other necessary material at affordable prices. The state will continue to provide the cooperative associations and units with machinery at profitable tariffs.

At the same time, we intend to encourage the development of diversified agro-industries in the rural environment as an additional means of bringing young people and other persons back to villages.

We plan a rapid development and diversification of services, which can absorb a significant amount of the labor force, and in which private initiative can find a very propicious environment. Transportation, telecommunications, financial and banking services, insurance, tourism, public services, public utilities, and communal administration will be expanded both through state investments and private initiative.

The NSF believes that a new policy is required in the area of foreign economic relations in accordance with the requirements of a market economy, involving primarily the abolition of the state monopoly over foreign trade, the decentralization of the decisionmaking process in foreign trade, and the functional and financial-currency autonomy of those involved in foreign trade, regardless of the nature of ownership and form of organization.

A close linkage exists between the opening toward a market economy and the process of privatization on the one hand, and the restructuring of education and of scientific development programs, on the other.

In this context, we must take into consideration the following:

—the need for institutes of science, education, and research that can invest heavily in programs leading to scientific and managerial progress; and

—the need for enterprises capable of investing considerably in changing and updating technologies and securing appropriate managerial systems.

This requires a rational view of certain current problems: Are we pursuing privatization for its own sake or in a manner permitting technological progress? Preserving a public (or state) sector in the area of certain industrial branches capable of heavily investing in scientific and technological research programs is absolutely vital for our society. Along this line, research units in several key sectors, as well as our institutes of higher learning must receive strong financial support from the state so as to become true centers of scientific research, capable of technological rejuvenation. This is an area in which we must make a decided leap to be able to utilize the main resource of the country: the creative capabilities and intelligence of our people. This is also the area in which our youth are expected to assert their creative potential and inventiveness. On the other hand, we must not forget that there is no incompatibility between the public sector and the principles of a market economy. The West features state domains that constitute powerful economic sectors in highly developed countries.

The social aspect of our platform is extremely generous and in point of fact, it best represents the identity of the Front and its opening to issues concerning the standard and quality of life. I will just mention in passing several of the measures we propose: improving public supplies of foodstuffs, heat, and energy; providing more housing; guaranteeing minimum incomes and unemployment pay; introducing the 40-hour work week; expanding social assistance for children, old, and handicapped people; exempting women from hard working conditions and diversifying services designed to reduce the time and efforts women put into household work; improving the network of kindergardens and nurseries; providing free basic medical care, and assistance for young families.

A modern and democratic society must be based on the principle of free elections—the only principle capable of expressing the people's choice. The electoral campaign will clarify the alternatives among which the electorate is called upon to decide. Naturally, we believe that the program of the NSF—a modern group closely in touch with reality and widely opened to the future—is the only valid alternative for the Romanian people.

The Front—which is open to all democratic forces—asks for cooperation and expects support from all those who want to utilize their creativity to shape a new society and a new world.

Iliescu Discusses NSF's Goals

LD2904122190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1140 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] Sarajevo, Apr 29 (TANJUG)—Romania's National Salvation Front (NSR) strives for democratic pluralism, introduction of private ownership, market-based economy, and opening towards Europe—states the Front's presidential candidate at elections on May 20, Ion Iliescu, in his interview carried in today's issue of the Yugoslav OSLOBODJENJE daily.

In his first interview to a Yugoslav paper, Romanian provisional president accuses the extreme right in his country for organizing demonstrations in an attempt at discrediting the president political leadership and upsetting the normal close of election campaign.

Iliescu spoke in terms of praise about the Liberal Party's presidential candidate, Radu Campeanu, assessing him as his biggest rival at the elections. A campaign of the candidate of the National-Peasants Party, Ion Ratiu, however, is relying on money and corruption, said Iliescu.

In explaining why the Romanian ex-king Michael had not been allowed to enter the country recently, Iliescu said that the king obtained a visa for private vists but he wanted to arrive with his genuine suite, including in it a hundred of foreign journalists.

Iliescu says that it was then concluded that, on the eve of elections, his visit could reflect adversely on the country's political situation.

Iliescu, the most likely winner at the presidential election, stressed that the king can arrive in the country in a private visit whenever he wants to after the elections.

Iliescu evaluated that the promotion of relations with neighbours should be the constant element of Romania's foreign policy. We already maintain good relations with neighbours, Yugoslavia included, said Iliescu and underscored that tensions exists in relations with Hungary alone because certain quarters of the Hungarian Government were in part responsible for the conflicts between Romanians and the Hungarian minority in Transylvania.

Iliescu on Romania's Foreign Policy

AU2704120690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0834 GMT 27 Apr 90

["Election Campaign: Candidates for the Presidency; Ion Iliescu on Romania's Foreign Policy"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 27/4/1990—In my capacity as president of the National Salvation Front Council and, respectively, of the Provisional National Unity Council, I have cooperated with my colleagues in reorganizing Romania's foreign policy by working, among other things, for the initiation of a normalization process and the expansion of relations virtually with all the states participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, shows Mr. Ion Iliescu in an interview with the weekly LUMEA AZI (THE WORLD TODAY). Several understandings have been reached providing for Romania's integration into the all-European relations complex, in the economic as well as commercial exchanges, and for the promotion of general human values. In the context, the final document of the CSCE states' meeting in Vienna was totally accepted, Romania joined the Sofia meeting report on environmental protection, its concern was reiterated, as a Warsaw Treaty member, to place greater emphasis on this alliance's political character in view of military blocs' dissolution, it also subscribed to the CMEA member states' agreement on the council's using market mechanisms and getting closer to the world market conditions, and it has shown its interest in strengthening ties with the common market and its wish to adhere to the Council of Europe.

Moreover, concern was shown for setting Romania's relations with the third-world countries on more realistic bases, which found an expression in contacts with Latin American, African and Asian countries, in the creation of conditions for a higher quality of collaboration with them and in the retrieval of part of their debts to Romania.

No less significant have proved the Romanian Government's actions for the building up of confidence and military disarmament in Europe, for the conclusion of disarmament and arms control accords. Furthermore, Romania's joining the UN Security Council has offered it a favourable framework for a broad opening to the world and the assertion of its will to promote understanding and cooperation among nations.

Referring to the future, Mr. Iliescu said: we intend to promote a coherent, dynamic and flexible foreign policy of wide opening to the world, of good neighbourliness, of peace and friendship with all peoples, underlain by the principles of the international law, by respect for international undertakings and treaties, by a legal framework for Romania's reintegration into the European civilization and its inclusion in the world flow of ideas, of cultural and scientific values.

Campeanu, Ratiu on Romania's Foreign Policy

AU2704171690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1518 GMT 27 Apr 90

["Election Campaign: Presidential Candidates on Romania's Foreign Policy"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 27/4/1990—Radu Campeanu: I suggest an understanding between Poland, Czecho-Slovakia, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria as soon as possible, an association of these countries, which should start on a cultural plane. My suggestion is prompted by my belief that these countries, which had to stand the same kind of regime, have—or should have—the same reactions and, consequently, they share the same tendencies and feelings.

"The common European home" Mikhail Gorbachev suggested makes an interesting proposal, which should be clarified not only by us but also by Western countries. I have nothing against Soviet participation in Europe.... And I think of Europe where frontiers get blurred, if they do not disappear altogether, a Europe where the nations boast their own balance, in their institutions and in their lives. It is only in like conditions that Europe may exist. Our participation in Europe is a matter of urgency, I should say....

Ion Ratiu: I am for the UN principles and for the firm observance of the country's sovereignty and independence. Modern life allows no state to live in isolation. Romania should reintegrate itself into the political, economic and cultural life of the civilized world. Primarily, I think we should rebuild our relations with large Western democracies such as France, England, Germany, the United States....

It is essential that from now on Romania enter the agenda of the talks of the leaders of the world whenever decisions on this side of Europe are going to be made, like, for instance, at the next Bush-Gorbachev summit, due late in May. Our links which China should be strengthened. As for the Soviet Union, I believe we should support their perestroyka. We will observe the treaties Romania has already signed, which means we will observe the Helsinki Final Act and everything deriving therefrom. We remain in the Warsaw Treaty and we intend to work within this pact towards palpable steps towards the dissolution of military alliances and the creation of prerequisites for the building of a common European home. We will develop fine relations with the USSR—a neighbouring, friendly country. We want to develop ties of good neighbourhood with all the former communist countries in Eastern Europe. In this context, we are for an active policy of association of these countries, of close cooperation among them and, subsequently, of gradual integration into the European Economic Community. As for the Romanian-Hungarian relations, we militate for a historic reconciliation between our two peoples.

Electoral Bureau Statistics on Candidacies

AU2704173790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1616 GMT 27 Apr 90

["Election Campaign: 17 Million Voters—Over 7,000 Candidates"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 27/4/1990—Mr. Ovidiu Zarnescu, judge, president of the Central Electoral Bureau, announced that 73 political parties and groups nominated candidates for the first free elections in Romania, most of them, 57 in the city of Bucharest.

During a meeting with Romanian journalists and foreign press correspondents held on Friday morning he specified that there were 5,700 candidates for the Assembly of Deputies and 1,580 for the Senate. The figures are approximate, to be final after the interval left for appeals which ends on 29 April. As many as 212 independents have fielded their candidature for the Assembly of Deputies and 126 for the Senate.

Answering several questions, Mr. Ovidiu Zarnescu stated that "it seemed" that several appeals were registered at the Supreme Court, where the appeals concerning candidatures for Romania's presidency are registered, specifying that he did not know whom they referred to, only that they were made by independent persons, not by political parties or groups. The Supreme Court is in charge with their settlement in a three-day term, according to the law. The appeals regarding the candidatures for the Assembly of Deputies and for the Senate are registered at the County and Bucharest City Electoral Bureaux, and their situation is not known yet.

Many details were provided in connection with the participation of foreign observers in these elections, with emphasis on the fact that the Romanian authorities extended invitations to all countries, to numerous governmental, nongovernmental organizations, as well as to numerous personalities. They will be secured conditions to follow and supervise the fairness of the elections, starting with the Central Electoral Bureau and ending with every polling station in the remotest settlements, being provided transport means and other facilities, except accommodation expenses in this country and this in order to avoid accusations that the objectivity of the observers could be influenced.

"We are open to all those who want to supervise the fairness of the 20 May free elections in Romania. We want everybody to see them so that there could be no doubt as regards their fairness. To this end both the opening of the ballot boxes and the counting of the votes will be made in the presence of the candidates, of the representatives of the political parties and groups, of the Romanian and foreign journalists, of the foreign observers, of anyone wishing to see," stated the president of the Central Electoral Bureau. He specified that the counting of the votes will be "double," both nominally and with the help of computers operational in every county and Bucharest City Electoral Bureau, as well as in the Central Electoral Bureau. The Romanian electorate, estimated by Mr. Zarnescu at roughly 17 million, will thus be able to freely express their vote, in the best conditions, with no influence from anyone.

Releases Candidate Figures

AU2804143490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English
0729 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] The Central Electoral Bureau notifies that there are 5,716 nominees (of which 334 from among minorities) for the 387-seat assembly of deputies and 1,584 (49 from among minorities) for the 119-seat senate.

For the 39 seats in the assembly of deputies set for Bucharest Municipality there are 988 candidates, while for the 14 seats in the senate 273.

* Principles of National Peasant Party Listed

90BA0059C Bucharest DREPTATEA in Romanian
14 Apr 90 p 5

[Unattributed report: "Basic Principles of the National Peasant Christian-Democratic Party"]

[Text] The supreme goal of the National Peasant Christian and Democratic Party [NPP] is to defend the independence, sovereignty, and integrity of the country.

1. DOMESTIC POLICY

1.1 Establishing a state of law in which legality will be observed within the framework of a constitutional political regime based on:

—individual freedom;
—pluralist democracy;
—administrative decentralization;
—free election;
—through secret ballot;
—of central and local leading bodies;
—separation of the three;
—legislative, executive, and judicial;
—powers in the state; and
—establishing the referendum as the highest form of decisionmaking on matters of a national importance.

1.2 Constitutional, legislative, and institutional guarantees to ensure the democratic leadership of the country and preclude the establishment of a fascist or communist dictatorial regime, or any other form of totalitarianism or authoritarianism.

1.3 Freedom of expression, press, and all means of conveyance of ideas and information. Secure access to the state-owned mass media in equitable conditions for all the political or social groups and for all the citizens.

1.4 Ensuring the basic political and social rights and freedoms featured in the UN Human Rights Charter, the Helsinki Treaty, and all the international conventions which the Romanian state will join, for all citizens, regardless of nationality or religious faith.

2. FOREIGN POLICY

2.1 Promoting a realistic foreign policy in accordance with the cultural traditions and the aspirations of our people as a civilized European nation, and in keeping with the geopolitical situation of the country.

2.2 Developing relations of good neighborliness.

2.3 Expanding and improving relations with all the states, beginning with the European nations, for achieving a European Common Home.

2.4 Observing all the obligations assumed by Romania under international treaties.

3. THE ECONOMY

3.0.1 The nation's wealth must result from the wellbeing of all its citizens, for whom the state will create a legal framework and financial advantages.

3.0.2 A market economy will gradually be introduced, by which we understand the freedom of each producer (agricultural, industrial, livestock raiser, etc.) to adapt his activities to consumer demand and his production capacities.

3.0.3 Free competition will lead to:

—lower prices;
—meeting consumer needs;
—improved quality of goods; and
—increased productivity.

3.1 AGRICULTURE

3.1.1 The core of the agricultural organization will be the individual farm. Justice will be done to the peasants, who were robbed of their land and property by force and terror throughout the communist regime for the purpose of achieving a utopic collectivization.

3.1.2 The land belonging to agricultural production cooperatives will be restored to the peasants in personal and perpetual ownership, and they will be helped to procure the means required to carry out agricultural operations, fertilize the soil, irrigate the fields, combat pests, select seed, etc., so that they can build genuine European (Danish, Dutch, Swiss, etc.)-type farms.

3.1.3 The size of the plots of land will be determined by:

—the shape and nature of the terrain and the quality of the soil;
—the total number of people entitled to receive land; and
—the area of land available in the region (also outside of cooperatives and state-owned agricultural enterprises, where applicable).

3.1.4 The size of the plots of land that will be given in full ownership will be calculated to ensure a prosperous life for each family, but not to exceed the working capacity of each family; the owners will also be given long-term loans to acquire machinery and tools.

3.1.5 The land owners will be free to organize in voluntary associations for the purpose of:

—carrying out mechanized agricultural operations;
—implementing field rotation;
—marketing produce; and
—storing produce, etc.

3.1.6 The members of any agricultural production cooperative may request to maintain the collective ownership of the lands and related means of production to which they are entitled.

3.1.7 The land owners may dispose of all their produce, without any obligation to deliver quotas or to grow certain crops.

3.2 INDUSTRY

3.2.1 Small scale industry will be entirely privatized, in the form of individual property or industrial associations.

3.2.2 The state will encourage the establishment of new enterprises through loans and a reasonable tax policy.

3.2.3 Medium-sized industries will be gradually transferred into private hands as joint stock companies owned by their personnel, or as mixed associations.

3.2.4 Major industries of a national interest will remain in the ownership of the state, but will be organized as autonomous enterprises (on the pre-war model of "Autonomous Managements").

3.2.5 Mixed enterprises will be established with the participation of foreign capital, which will be restricted in a manner to ensure the decisionmaking right of the Romanian side, for the purpose of:

—revitalizing lagging industries;
—replacing outdated or worn out equipment;
—modernizing technologies;
—improving the quality of goods;
—securing foreign markets; and
—ensuring advantageous sources of raw materials.

3.3 PUBLIC SERVICES

3.3.1 Public services will be intensively promoted by providing state-owned space for necessary production facilities and loans to purchase tools and equipment.

To develop and diversify services, and thus meet consumer demand for timely and satisfactory services, retraining classes will be organized for artisans with appropriate schooling, and graduates of vocational and industrial schools will be encouraged to join this sector.

3.4 COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

3.4.1 Commercial activites will be carried out on the basis of private initiative and free competition, from the interplay of which we expect to achieve:

—lower prices;
—selective production; and
—satisfactory consumer services.

3.4.2 Credit will be granted to allow individuals to take over existing state stores and to open new stores.

4. THE ECOLOGY

4.1 Measures will be taken to achieve higher living conditions by restoring the environment to its natural condition.

4.2 All sources of pollution will be identified.

4.3 The planned cleaning projects will be reexamined and the respective plants will be obligated to put into use the satisfactory installations or order new designs, which must be immediately implemented. Unsatisfactory cleaning installations will be shut down.

4.4 Sources of pollution will be put under permanent supervision and the state reserves the right to close them down.

4.5 Special attention will be paid to the side effects of fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides, and the ones responsible for significant pollution will be banned.

4.6 Special crops and plants will be cultivated to improve natural environmental conditions for the purpose of: oxygenating the air, maintaining humidity levels, reducing air currents, preserving thermal stability, etc.

5. SOCIAL AREAS

5.1 Free trade unions, not belonging to any party and designed to truly defend the workers' professional and social rights, will be promoted.

5.2. Labor protection measures will be taken, as well as measures to prevent professional diseases and secure health, old age, and unemployment insurance.

5.3 Medical care and social services will be reorganized along humane and efficient lines.

5.4 The 40-hour work week will be introduced.

5.5 Laws will be enacted to provide for changes or restricted activities in enterprises for the purpose of retraining workers, thus preempting unemployment.

5.6 The state will make investments in social objectives and works that require a long period of cost amortization with a view to providing jobs.

5.7 Favorable conditions will be provided for the exercise of professional activities.

5.8 The youth will be involved in the work of national rehabilitation, and will be intensively promoted on the basis of professional, intellectual, and moral qualifications.

5.9 Measures will be taken to ensure the equitable participation of women in social, economic, and political activities at all levels, and to promote their specific concerns, ideals, and qualities in the life of the state.

5.10 Workers, women, and youth organizations will be active within the party, with a view to clarifying and supporting their specific interests and aspirations.

5.11 Our gratitude and homage go to all the people's heroes who fell in the struggle against the totalitarian communist regime since 1945 to the present.

5.12 Pension rights will be ensured for invalids and dependents of the victims of the December 1989 Revolution.

5.13 All the years spent by political prisoners in jail since 1945 to the present will be recognized as length of service.

5.14 All those who tortured political prisoners and those who since 1945 to the present (22 December 1989) took advantage of their positions to commit abuses of power and acts of corruption and violation of basic human rights, will be brought to court.

6. CULTURE

6.1 The people's spiritual rebirth will be achieved in line with Christian ethics and with the old Romanian traditions of tolerance and kindness.

6.2 Complete freedom will be ensured for intellectual creation. The culture and its institutions will be freed from the influence of political ideologies.

The unions of artists and the institutions of humanistic and scientific culture will be given material support, while remaining autonomous from the state.

Our cultural assets will be widely circulated in the world with a view to reintegrating Romanian culture within the great movement of European culture.

6.3 The educational system and cultural life will be reorganized along humanistic and democratic lines, and the autonomy of universities will be ensured. A democratic system of education will be provided for all young people, who will also be helped through a system of scholarships and contracts in the country and abroad. The youth will be involved in the work for national rehabilitation and will be intensively promoted only on the basis of intellectual and moral criteria.

6.4 Athletics, [physical] education, and a sports spirit will be encouraged and promoted.

7. THE ARMY

7.1 National traditions and history will be introduced as moral support in military training.

7.2 Defense weapons and military equipment will be modernized.

7.3 Special attention will be paid to the military training of officers and noncommissioned officers, and to their living conditions. Promotion criteria will focus on the professional capabilities and efficiency of the cadres.

7.4 Conditions will be provided to ensure optimal military training for young conscripts, in a civilized and dignified environment, and parallel steps will be taken within the limit of possibilities to expand their general and professional education.

The NPP calls upon all those who share its ideals of freedom, democracy, social justice, and Christian ethics, and all those who have a clean conscience and aspire to build a bright and dignified future for the fatherland to unite under the old and glorious banner of Iuliu Maniu and Ion Mihalache, so that united we can guide Romania along its natural path at the side of the civilized nations of Europe.

Diplomatic Ties To Resume With Vatican

AU3004091690 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 0800 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Sergiu Celac is holding talks this morning with Vatican Foreign Minister Angelo Sodano. It was agreed to resume diplomatic relations with the Vatican, which were broken off in 1948.

Romanian-Italian Economic Commission Meets

AU2004192090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1826 GMT 20 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 20/4/1990—Commission on April 20 Bucharest was the venue of the thirteenth session of the Joint Romanian-Italian Governmental Commission of Economic, Industrial and Technical Cooperation.

In an atmosphere of mutual understanding, the two delegations analyzed the current stage and the further development prospects of the links of economic, commercial and technical cooperation between Romania and Italy in the newly-created conditions after the December 1989 revolution in Romania.

The protocol of the session, signed by Mircea Mitran, deputy minister of foreign affairs, and Claudio Vitalone, undersecretary of state in Italy's Foreign Ministry, enshrines measures and actions to lead to the expansion and diversification of commercial exchanges and of economic and technical-scientific cooperation on a bilateral plane and on third markets in agriculture, the food industry, machine-building, electronics, electrical engineering, information sciences, telecommunications, the light industry, power engineering and other areas of mutual interest. Special emphasis is also placed on joint enterprises, professional training and cooperation between banking systems.

Mr. Vitalone, accompanied by Mr. Luigi Amaduzzi, Italy's ambassador in Bucharest, also conducted talks with Foreign Minister Sergiu Celac and Foreign Trade Minister Alexandru Margaritescu, with representatives of the major parties, of the students' league and of the Romanian intellectual life. During those contacts emphasis was placed on the interest taken by Italian political forces and public opinion in the process of building a new type, democratic and pluralist society in Romania.

Roman Receives Italian Ministry Official

AU2104164390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0901 GMT 21 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 21/4/1990—On 20 April, Romanian Premier Petre Roman received Senator Claudio Vitalone, undersecretary of state at the Foreign Affairs Ministry of Italy, chairman for his country of the Joint Romanian-Italian Governmental Commission of Economic, Industrial and Technical Cooperation.

Aspects were approached related to bilateral cooperation in the economic and trade fields, in the context of the new conditions in the post December 1989 revolution Romania. Emphasis was placed on the important steps Romania had made in the democratization of the economic and political life which allow the commercial exchanges, the economic, technical and scientific cooperation on a bilateral plane and in third countries to develop for both sides' benefit.

Disagreement Between Envoy to Paris, Government

AU2704141490 Bucharest DREPTATEA in Romanian 20 Apr 90 p 1

["Editorial note": "The Romanian Ambassador to Paris Disagrees With the Policy of the Government Toward King Mihai I"]

[Text] During his sojourn in Bucharest, Mr. Alexandru Paleologu, our country's ambassador to Paris, made some statements which clarified his attitude after the withdrawal of the entry visa granted to Romania's ex-King Mihai I.

Mr. Paleologu said that reports that he protested this measure were wrong. He had merely stated his opinion. Mr. Paleologu is concerned about the deterioration of Romania's reputation in the world, especially in France. In his opinion, the government has contributed to the deterioration of the situation by withdrawing the visa granted to the former king.

We share that opinion. A government suspected by Europe and North America of wanting to reestablish a communist regime in our country does not improve its reputation by proving that it is intolerant. Banning the former king's visit to Romania was enough proof in this respect.

After talks with Messrs. Ion Iliescu and Sergiu Celac, Mr. Paleologu returned to Paris on Thursday, 19 April.

Celac Addresses UN Session on Economic Issues

AU2504195790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1907 GMT 25 Apr 90

["S. Celac: Tackling Global Problems From New Angles"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 25/4/1990—"The relaxation of international tensions, the progress of freedom and democracy in large areas of the world and the resulting profound changes in economic policies are likely to make it possible to tackle global problems from new and hopefully more productive angles," stated Romanian Foreign Minister Sergiu Celac in his speech to the UN General Assembly special session.

Starting from the fact that a revolution took place in Romania, the foreign minister stressed that his country "approaches world economic issues, including those placed on the agenda of this special session, in the light of the deep changes and challenges facing its economy," adding that "while each nation is responsible for its own economic policies, the success of such policies depends to a great extent on the existence of a supportive international environment."

Next, Mr. Celac underscored the great importance Romania attaches to its relations with the other countries of the old continent stressing that "building a new Europe should become an exclusive enterprise" and that "the great potential of Europe may soon become a major driving force for the world economy as a whole."

"A developing country, Romania shares the fundamental concern of the third world countries for the solution of the serious problems they have to deal with," the Romanian minister said adding: "We are determined, therefore, to cooperate closely with the other developing countries within the Group of 77, at the United Nations and in other international fora."

Next, the speaker stressed the imperative of sound economic strategies and policies on a national level, of a genuine partnership of developed and developing countries, of the elimination of the positions of polarization and confrontation which make of underdevelopment a major threat to the stability of world economy, the need for the international trade to be characterized by nondiscrimination, transparency and predictability, for the industrialized countries to reduce tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade, and, particularly, the ensurance of market access to products from developing countries. A further endeavour to improve the generalized system of preferences would be beneficial to everyone.

In the final section of his speech the Romanian foreign affairs minister underlined the importance of scientific-technological transfers, of environmentally sound development, as well as of a more humane orientation of the development process, of the important part the United Nations and its specialized agencies have to play in attaining all these goals.

Celac Meets Foreign Delegates at UN Session

AU2704080890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0647 GMT 27 Apr 90

["Romanian Foreign Minister's Diplomatic Contacts at UN"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 27/4/1990—While participating in the special session of the UN General Assembly on international economic cooperation, Mr. Sergiu Celac, minister of foreign affairs of Romania, had talks with Dr. Juergen Warnke, federal minister for international cooperation of West Germany, Datuk Abu Hassan Omar, minister of foreign affairs of Malaysia, Budimir Loncar, federal secretary for foreign affairs of Yugoslavia, Ali Alatas, minister of foreign affairs of Indonesia, Gerard Collins, minister of foreign affairs of Ireland, Chong Ha-yu, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Korea, Kang Sok-chu, first deputy [foreign] minister of the DPR Korea, and with Ambassador Samir al-Shihabi, Saudi Arabian chief delegate to the special session.

Questions were approached in relation to growing political, economic and other collaboration between Romania and the respective countries, to aspects of the situation in Europe and other parts of the world, and the UN's strengthening role in promoting international economic cooperation.

The Romanian minister also had talks with the president of the General Assembly Joseph Garba, foreign minister of Nigeria, and with UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar. Aspects of the current special session were discussed, with emphasis on the responsibility of the UN and other international organizations in the development of interstate political, economic, technical and scientific collaboration. Stress was laid on Romania's determination to actively cooperate in a constructive spirit with the other UN member states for the settlement of the major problems of the international life.

On April 24 Mr. Celac participated as invited guest in the ministerial meeting of non-aligned countries held in New York on the latest developments in Europe and in other parts of the world.

Delegate Addresses UN Economic Commission

AU2604093490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0626 GMT 26 Apr 90

["Official News—Major Option Market Economy"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 26/4/1990—Taking the floor in reference to the item surveying the economic situation in Europe and North America, Romania's delegate to the UN Economic Commission for Europe, Mihail Diaconu, evinced the fact that, after the December revolution, a firm and irreversible process of real democratization was being under way in Romania. On an economic plane, the major option is the market economy with its principles and mechanisms, the speaker said. Nevertheless, given the difficulties inherited from the dictatorial regime, the Romanian economy is confronted with a deep crisis the scope of which is hard to be appraised since the statistical data of the last few years were not realistically grounded.

Romania's delegate forwarded several figures which prove a general decline of the Romanian economy in 1989 from the previous year, the same holding for the foreign trade activity, a situation that unfortunately maintained in the first quarter of this year.

In another address he made during the debates on growing international trade and economic cooperation, Romania's representative underscored that, after the revolution, his country promoted new conditions for its economic relations, first of all by abolishing laws which obstructed business contacts, eliminating excessive centralized planning as well as the state monopoly over foreign trade. He also stressed its concern to attract foreign capital investment toward setting up trading and economic companies with Romanian enterprises, of which the foreign partner firms can partake hundred per cent in industry, agriculture, tourism, construction, banking, research, and others.

Loncar, Jewish Congress Leader Meet in New York

LD2704215890 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1955 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] New York, April 27 (tanjug)—Yugoslav Foreign Secretary Budimir Loncar met with President of the World Jewish Congress Edgar Bronfman in New York today.

The talks focused on the Middle East. Loncar informed Bronfman about the activities of the "Nine-member Committee" for Palestine, one of whose members is Yugoslavia, and the results of its latest meeting, which was held in Tunis.

Bronfman commended Yugoslavia on its efforts in the search for a just solution to the Middle East conflict. An exchange of views on some European topics also took place.

Loncar and Bronfman welcomed the traditionally good cooperation of the Yugoslav authorities with Jewish communities in the country, as well as the reestablishment of ties between towns and individuals in Israel and Yugoslavia.

In that context they also talked about the two countries relations and the prospects for the full normalization.

Loncar is heading a Yugoslav delegation at a special session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, where he also chaired a special ministerial meeting of the Nonaligned Movement.

Drnovsek Comments on Vatican Relations

LD2804201990 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1403 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Split, 28 Apr (TANJUJG)— I do not see any particular reason why Pope John Paul II should not visit Yugoslavia. It would be a significant visit which would further consolidate cooperation between the Vatican and Yugoslavia. I am convinced that such a visit would mean a great deal to many of our people, especially to Catholics.

If there were any reasons why the Pope should not visit our country I do not see them today. We are implementing democratic reforms while respecting political pluralism, the freedom of thought and expression, and of course the freedom to practice one's religion. Our state has always been open-minded regarding interstate relations and even the few reservations that had existed are now being set aside.

This was stated by Janez Drnovsek, president of the SFRY Presidency, in his interview with SLOBODNA DALMACIJA, to be published in tomorrow's issue.

Stressing that the Pope pays state visits as the supreme pontiff of the Catholic Church, at the invitation of the Bishops' Conference of the countries with emphasis on the economic dimension, Drnovsek does not see any reason why the arrival of the Pope in Yugoslavia would have a negative effect on the situation in Yugoslav society and intranational and intradenominational relations. I am deeply convinced that this is neither the wish of the Vatican, nor of Yugoslavia as a state, nor of people of goodwill as individuals. Even late Archbishop Angilarij, head of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, invited the Pope to visit his church when he came to Yugoslavia, and the Islamic community, too, expressed a wish that the Pope should visit their community during his visit to our country.

Should the Pope visit Yugoslavia, about which no concrete program has yet been examined, Drnovsek thinks the Pope should be received as a statesman, but that necessary preparations should also be carried out to receive him in his pastoral capacity, which would of course depend on the wishes of the Vatican.

Relations between Yugoslavia and the Holy See are very good and imbued with a high degree of mutual trust and understanding. This is also the official assessment of both sides and I am certain that it would continue to be so in the future. The Holy See expresses understanding of Yugoslavia's specific position which results from its multinational and multidenominational character, and also understands the delicate balance in relations between particular religions and nations. The Vatican and Yugoslavia are important elements in the process of European cooperation and security, continued Janez Drnovsek, president of the SFRY Presidency.

As far as the role of the Catholic Church in current processes of democratization and social transformation is concerned, Drnovsek stresses that it can also be significant in the process of detente between our nations and nationalities.

The head of the Yugoslav state assessed the Vatican's attitude toward the Nonaligned Movement as positive and in keeping with the views which both the movement and the Holy See are defending, as illustrated by the close or identical stands of Yugoslavia and the Holy See on numerous international issues. Also significant are similar assessments and proposals for the promotion of international cooperation and for solving burning issues of the modern world—peace, disarmament, international debts, development, North-South relations, hotbeds of crisis, etc.

Recalling that a representative of the Vatican had attended the Nonaligned summit in Belgrade, Janez Drnovsek, president of the SFRY Presidency, said that, bearing in mind the position of the Holy See in international relations, a greater institutionalization of relations was neither realistic nor necessary, though he does not see any particular reason which would prevent it if interest were expressed.

Macedonia Opposes Bulgarian Minority Policy

LD2804220190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1809 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Kruso, Macedonia, April 28 (TANJUG)—Macedonia has no territorial pretensions towards its neighbours when it raises the question of the rights of

Macedonian national minorities in other countries, Jezdimir Boganovski, president of the state presidency of the Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, said in a comment on the policy of the Bulgarian authorities towards the Macedonian national minority in that country.

Bogdanovski was speaking at a mass rally organized to commemorate the 85th anniversary of the death of Nikola Karev, leader of a Macedonian national uprising against the Turkish occupation.

He said the conduct of Bulgaria's new, allegedly democratic, authorities, which continue to deny the very existence of Macedonian nation in Bulgaria, was harming Yugoslav-Bulgarian relations.

Bogdanovski also criticized forces in Yugoslavia which negate the achievements and rights of the Macedonian nation in Yugoslavia. He was clearly pointing at criticism from Serbia directed at the policies of Macedonia's party and state leaderships.

Bogdanovski's call today for a Yugoslavia as a community of voluntarily united peoples is in itself an expression of the long struggle of the Macedonians for national liberation and self-determination.

People's Radical Party Convenes Congress

*LD3004013490 Belgrade TANJUG in English
2114 GMT 29 Apr 90*

[Text] Belgrade, April 29 (TANJUG)—The People's Radical Party, one of the most powerful and important political parties in Serbia before World War One and in prewar Yugoslavia, called for convening a constitutional assembly at its congress in Belgrade on Sunday—the first held since World War Two.

The party—which was set up in 1881, dominated the political scene of Serbia in what was known as its "golden age" (from 1903 to 1914) and participated in 30 of the 39 royal governments between 1918 and 1944—asked at the congress, attended by about 1,700 supporters, that the world "socialist" be crossed out from the official name of Yugoslavia and the five-pointed star from its coat- of-arms.

The People's Radical Party declared that it favours a federative democratic Yugoslavia but that the existing borders between its six republics would not be accepted if the option for a confederation prevailed in the country, because the party does not consider the borders historical. If it comes to power—the programme of the party says—it will advocate Yugoslavia's withdrawal from the Nonaligned Movement and establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel.

The party also stands for the restoration of citizenship and property to members of the Karadjordjevic dynasty (who ruled Yugoslavia from 1918 to 1941) and the Petrovic dynasty (who ruled Montenegro until 1916), and for the general amnesty of political prisoners.

The Radicals hold that the troubled southern province of Kosovo should be within the exclusive jurisdiction of Yugoslavia's largest republic of Serbia, while "all Albanian immigrants should be returned to where they came from to occupy Serbian farms."

Federal Government Employees To Be Reduced

*LD2904153490 Belgrade TANJUG in English
1245 GMT 29 Apr 90*

[Text] Belgrade, Apr 29 (TANJUG)—The number of employees in the federal organs and organizations of Yugoslavia will be cut down this year by 15 per cent.

Under a plan recently put forward by the Yugoslav government, one out of every four present employees who now total 15,000 would leave, while 1,500 new experts, as a professional and cadre reinforcement, would be employed.

Croatian Democrat Party Leaves Coalition

*AU2704153890 Belgrade Domestic Service
in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 27 Apr 90*

[Vesna Knezevic report]

[Text] [Announcer] In anticipation of the final results of the first round of the Croatian elections, here is Vesna Knezevic from Zagreb:

[Knezevic] The Croatian Democratic Party has left the Coalition of National Understanding. Two things are relevant in the case of this party, which is headed by the two Veselica brothers: First, they separated from the Croatian Democratic Community, as a common programatic and cadre core, last summer citing the undemocratic internal structure of the Croatian Democratic Community as the main reason for this. Second, of the three places that have been won so far by the Coalition of National Understanding, all three belong to candidates of the Croatian Democratic Party, Antun Katunar from Krk, Josip Bala from Garesnica, and Vlada Jaksic from Duga Resa. There has been no official confirmation, but the possibility of an assembly coalition between the Croatian Democratic Community and the Croatian Democratic Party seems very probable.

Alluding to the origins of the Veselica brothers, one of the members of the election headquarters of the Coalition of National Understanding, mentioned the spirit of Finnish knights.

The Budisa-Vujic-Cesar coalition goes on to the second round of the elections but this obviously can only mean it is closer to an extra-parliamentary opposition. Apart from that, a big question is whether the three aforementioned parties—the parties of the Coalition of National Understanding—the Liberals, Social Democrats, and Christian Democrats, will also stay together in this role.

If one looks at the list of candidates for the second round, the parliamentary superiority of the Croatian Democratic Community in the Assembly becomes even more certain. The Communists could save possibly 30 percent of places but this would be together with all the others.

The Serbian Democratic Party has so far won three places in parliament. The new representatives are Jovo Opacic, Dusan Zelenbaba, and Radoslav Tanga. Some people from this party are in the lead in some constituencies.

The second round will be a question of pure calculation. In the majority of cases this involves one candidate each from the Croatian Democratic Community, the League of Communists of Croatia, and the Coalition. The Communists and the Coalition could take advantage of the possibility of a preferential withdrawal of nominations, so that their candidates do not share the votes again and allow the Croatian Democratic Community to control 80 percent of the parliament. Neither have announced this and the legal deadline for all possible tactical moves expired at 1500.

The election commission has announced that the final results of the first round will be published tonight, but even this is not certain.

Breakdown of Croat Election Results Released

LD2804201490 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1248 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Zagreb, 28 Apr (TANJUG)—The republican electoral commission today officially announced the election of 131 new deputies to the three chambers of the Croat Assembly, which has a total of 356 seats. In the first round of the multiparty elections, 36.8 percent of the deputy seats have been filled.

According to a breakdown by party, the Croatian Democratic Union [HDZ] is in the lead with 104 seats in the first round, or 28.21 percent of the total. The Croat LC-Party of Democratic Change [SKH-SDP] has 13 deputies (3.65 percent) in all three assembly chambers. The independent candidates, Coalition of National Accord [KNS] and the Serbian Democratic Party [SDS] have three deputies each. The joint candidates of the SKH-SDP and the Croatian Socialist Alliance have won three seats, and the joint representatives of the HDZ, the Croat Peasant Party, the HDZ, and the Croatian Social Liberal Party [HSLS] have one seat each.

Of the 80 seats in the Socio-Political Chamber, 28 have been filled after the first round. Most went to representatives of the HDZ with 24 seats (or 30 percent of the total), two deputies are from the SKH-SDP, one is independent, and one is a representative of the SDS. The first round of elections for this chamber were canceled in the constituencies of Samobor, Sisak I, and Labin; in these places the entire election procedure will be repeated, while a decision on 49 deputies will be reached in the second round of voting.

By voting in the first round citizens have elected 53 out of a total of 116 deputies in the Chamber of Municipalities in the Croat Assembly. After the first round the HDZ has 39 deputies (or 33.62 percent of the total) in this assembly chamber. The SKH-SDP has six seats (5.17 percent), while three deputies are joint representatives of the SKH-SDP and the Croatian Socialist Alliance, two are from the KNS, and one is from the SDS. The joint representatives of the HDZ, the Croat Peasant Party, the HDZ, and the HSLS have one seat each.

The elections to the Assembly Chamber of Municipalities have been canceled in Sisak, Samobor, and Pazin; in these places the entire electoral procedure will be repeated due to breaches of the electoral law detected there. The remaining 60 deputies to this chamber will be elected in the second round.

So far, the election of 50 deputies to the largest assembly chamber—the Chamber of Associated Labor, with its 160 seats—has been officially endorsed. Among them, 41 are from the HDZ list, or 25.36 percent of the total of the HDZ list, while five are representatives (3.13 percent) of the SKH-SDP; two independent candidates and one from the SDS have also been elected to this chamber. Figures have not yet been compiled in 15 wards. The second round will take place in 92 wards. In three wards (Karlovac, Krapina, and Brac), not even the first round took place so the whole procedure is yet to start there.

According to the findings of the Republican Electoral Commission, 708 candidates have qualified to take part in the competition for the 201 seats still vacant in the three chambers. The commission has however learned that 132 candidates have quit the electoral competition. While these figures are being compiled, observers maintain that this is a matter of creating some new coalitions for the second round on 6 and 7 May.

The figures bear witness to a very high turnout of voters—over 84 percent—in the elections to the Socio-Political Chamber and the Chamber of Municipalities. A slightly lesser turnout - 76.39 percent - was registered in the elections to the Chamber of Associated Labor. About four per cent of the ballots for all the assembly chambers were invalid.

More on Election Results

LD3004135990 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in English 1209 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, April 30 (TANJUG)—Final results of the first round of parliamentary elections in Croatia, held on April 22-23, indicate a likely victory of the Croatian Democratic Union (CDU) and its takeover of power from the armed communist left. After 5 years, the extreme nationalist right wing is almost sure to win an absolute majority in a second round of voting on May 6-7 and get a chance to form the republic's highest organs of power by itself.

Croatia will thus face another ideological and national rift, the federal government of Prime Minister Ante Markovic a [word indistinct] problem of governing the country divided into a right-wing north-west and a left-wing south-east, and Yugoslavia the issue of restoration or survival.

The emergence in Croatia of the extreme right wing, which some analysts at home and abroad have likened to national-socialism unprecedented in Europe since the death of Franco and defeat of fascism in Spain, is worrying people throughout Yugoslavia.

First reactions to the election results are permeated with anxiety about Croatia's going away from genuine democracy and separating from Yugoslavia at a time when bipolarism is thawing in the world and democratic processes of unification are strengthening in Europe.

In the first round of voting, the conservative CDU headed by Franjo Tudjman, 68, won over 30 per cent of seats in all three chambers of the republic's parliament.

Of the 131 candidates elected in this round, 104 belong to the CDU. The League of Communists of Croatia-Party of Democratic Changes (LCC-PDC) has so far ensured 3 seats in parliament, and the Coalition of National Ageement (CNA), the Serbian Democratic Party (SDP) and independent candidates of various parties three seats each.

The CDU's triumph is complete when it is known that among the leaders of the more than 20 parties running in the election race [word indistinct] Tudjman alone secured a seat in parliament after the first round by winning nearly 70 per cent of the votes in his constituency, Zagreb's residential district Dubrava.

However, the left does not consider the battle lost yet. But according to some estimates, even the votes of one million voters who abstained in the first round cannot help it to stay in power.

Tudjman says that the voters did not vote for individual candidates but for the CDU's program, which is aimed at breaking with the communist era and rallying all Croats in a sovereign and independent state.

This point was corroborated, among other things, by the defeat suffered by well-known leaders of other parties, many renowned candidates.

A majority of leaders of other parties, especially those outside Croatia, say that the votes were cast for the republic's secession from Yugoslavia. Analysts note that the elections were decided by people who voted against present communist power and not for the CDU, a party which actually has no precise political programe, not to mention an economic one.

The CDU's success has been interpreted on different ways. In Croatia, the press largely stresses that the appearance of Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian president with hegemonistic pretensions, has paved the way to the throne for Tudjman. In Yugoslavia's largest Republic of Serbia, however, it is believed that the Croat communists have helped the CDU's coming to power by spreading Serbo-phobia, while their leader Ivica Racan has installed Tudjman by acting in collusion with all right-wing forces in the republic.

One thing is certain—the victory of the Tudjmanites is accompanied by an enormous amount of concern among the Yugoslav public because of the tendencies showing through behind it to rehabilitate a fascist puppet creation known as the Independent State of Croatia, and the pro-Ustasha ideas which resulted in the deaths of hundreds of thousands of patriots—largely Serbs, Jews, Romanies (Gypsies) and Communists—in concentration camps during World War Two.

Candidate Lists for Croat Elections Presented

LD2904052190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1942 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Zagreb, 28 Apr (TANJUG)—The republican Electoral Commission tonight presented its official lists of candidates for the 200 seats in the Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Croatia that will be contested in the second electoral round. The elections to the Chamber of Municipalities have been cancelled, and will be repeated, in three wards, while in nine wards no results have been obtained yet on the elections to the Chamber of Associated Labor.

In the first electoral round 131 candidates have won their electoral victory and seats, out of 356 seats in the Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Croatia. In these 200 wards, 572 candidates are contesting the remaining seats. In the meantime, between the two electoral rounds, 135 candidates have withdrawn their candidacies, although according to the electoral law they could have been listed for the second round of elections.

Among those who withdrew are 38 candidates of the Coalition of National Accord [Koalicija Narodnog Sporazuma—KNS], 32 independent candidates, 31 candidates from the list of The Croat League of Communists-Party of Democratic Change [SKH-Stranka Demokratskih Promjena—SKH-SDP], 7 representatives of the Croat Democratic Union [Hrvatska Demokratska Zajednica—HDZ] and 11 candidates of other parties. Among those who are persevering in the electoral competition, there are 157 candidates from the SKH-SDP, 141 from the HDZ, 106 from the KNS, 86 independent candidates, 35 from the Socialist Alliance, and 47 candidates of other parties and organizations.

Political Situation Prior to Elections Reviewed

LD3004013190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1905 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] Zagreb, April 29 (TANJUG)—The League of Communists of Croatia-Party of Democratic Changes (LCC-PDC) continues with the political and economic reforms of Prime Minister Ante Markovic's government which have already yielded major results, party President Ivica Racan told an election rally in the north Croatian town of Bjelovar on Sunday.

Racan said that the Party of Communists in Croatia—which is the second largest republic in Yugoslavia—had rejected illusions and dogmas and was tending towards the progress of all peoples in the country. We want a democratic Yugoslavia where all peoples and nationalities will become associated on a voluntary basis and equal, where every citizen will have peace and security, he stated.

In the first round of elections for all three chambers of Croatian Parliament, held on April 22-23, the LCC-PDC won 13 of the 356 seats, or 3.65 per cent, and the leading Croatian Democratic Union (CDU) 104 seats, or 29.21 per cent.

The second round of elections for the remaining 201 seats in the parliamentary chambers will be held on May 6-7.

Meanwhile, the Croatian Democratic Party (CDP) has withdrawn from the eleven-member Coalition of National Agreement (CNA).

The coalition won only three, or 0.84 per cent of the seats in Parliament. All three were won by candidates of the CDP.

On the other hand, the Croatian Christian Democratic Party (CCDP) has changed its original decision and decided to remain in the coalition.

Tudjman's Croatian Party Spreading in Bosnia

AU2904203490 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0800 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Report by correspondent Ljubomir Nikolic in Sarajevo from the "Sunday at 10" program—live or recorded]

[Text] Events on the political scenes in Croatia and Slovenia, as well as the schism in the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, have made a strong impact on relations in Bosnia-Hercegovina and its political life.

Everyone here is aware that both the West and the East of the country see our central republic as a pendulum whose swaying toward left or right determines not only the balance of power between these two parts of the country, but also the fate of Yugoslavia. Had Franjo Tudjman not mentioned Bosnia-Hercegovina in his election program as part of Croatia's history and its borders, the victory of the Croatian Democratic Community would only have been regarded as an important act for Croatia, as the expression of the will of its citizens.

Even before the elections, and especially after the first results had come through, the Croatian Democratic Community exerted strong pressure on western Bosnia-Hercegovina, which is mainly populated by Croats. Initiative committees of Tudjman's party are being founded throughout the region. A coordinating body for Hercegovina has also been founded. It claims that Croatian Democratic Community already has several thousand members in this part of Bosnia-Hercegovina. Moreover, claims are also made that a group of Croatian Democratic Community members are even operating in Sarajevo, (?as well as) in some other parts of Bosnia such as the area around the Sava River.

In yesterday's issue of Sarajevo OSLOBODJENJE, Tudjman greeted all Muslims on Ramadan, and particularly the members of his party. This time, however, he did not refer to them as part of the Croatian national corps and a [word indistinct] of the Croatian people. Aware of the fact that he cannot win a necessary majority in Bosnia-Hercegovina without the Muslims, Tudjman is doing everything possible to convince them that he has friendly intentions and that it is in their historic interest to join him.

However, the Croatian Democratic Community is not the only one working on this kind of anti-Serbian coalition. The Muslim Democratic Party, led by Alija Izerbegovic, also has its branches in Croatia and Slovenia and is obviously leaning to the West part of the country.

In addition to these parties, which still opposition forces in Bosnia-Hercegovina, the proponents of the idea of joining Croatia and Slovenia and the creation of a mini-federation, consisting of these three republics, are also present in the ranks of the ruling party. According to them, the new republican constitution should have only one chamber which would be able, at the appropriate time, to decide with only a 50-percent majority on whether to enter this kind of federation created by the three republics or not.

This variant is also proposed by those who today swear allegiance to Yugoslavia based on the AVNOJ [Anti-Fascist Council of National Liberation of Yugoslavia] principles and Bosnia-Hercegovina based on the ZAVNOBIH [Anti-Fascist Council of People's Liberation of Bosnia-Hercegovina] principles which represent the basis of the official policy of this republic.

In this situation characterized by the polarization on the national basis, the Serbs living in Bosnia-Hercegovina are the least vociferous. Except liking and supporting Slobodan Milosevic, they are not even trying to organize themselves and in this way oppose the announcement of new genocide and pogrom.

The picture of the political situation in Bosnia-Hercegovina would be gray and dark without the fact that the idea of Yugoslavism, favored by the majority of its citizens of all nationalities, is still strong in this republic. Reason is still prevalent here. The war wounds have not completely healed and this has caused a fear from a fratricidal war and the resurgence of Ustashas and Chetniks.

A strong manifestation of such feelings is expected to take place on Mount Kozara where a big traditional meeting supporting Yugoslavia, peace, and freedom is supposed to take place next month. Ante Markovic and Osman Karabegovic are expected to speak at the meeting. According to Bosko Baskot, a veteran from the Kozara region, Premier Markovic is invited by the organizers because he represents a great hope for all Yugoslavs and because he himself is a proven Yugoslav. Osman Karabegovic has been invited because he is a respected revolutionary and a supporter of brotherhood and unity.

Finally, one should say that the political situation and the balance of power in Bosnia-Hercegovina will be much clearer once the expected changes take place in the republican law on association of citizens and founding of parties on national basis. Only after that will the election campaign and multiparty elections start. They are expected to take place at the end of the year.

Slovenia's Future Premier on Secession

AU2904205390 Vienna DER STANDARD in German 28-29 Apr 90 p 3

[Inge Bacher-Dalma report: "Project for 'Third' Yugoslavia"]

[Text] Vienna—It is "a joy and a commitment" for him that he has first come to Vienna after his nomination by the electoral alliance "Demos," 42-year-old Christian Democrat Lojze Peterle, Slovenia's premier designate, said. His host, Economics Minister Erhard Busek, who had to leave the news conference for the airport after a few minutes because he has to lecture on Central Europe at six U.S. universities, promised to come to Ljubljana in May. He hopes that he will be able to provide economic support and will clarify Chancellor Vranitzky's statements on "Greater Yugoslavia," which caused understandable annoyance, in the cabinet, Busek said.

Slovenia cannot rule out secession from Yugoslavia, Peterle said, but the "Demos" program has to give preference to a federation of equal, sovereign countries.

Since the end of the democratic elections in Croatia, an "absurd situation" has been created as half of Yugoslavia—that is, the half with the far more powerful economy—is orientated toward pluralism, market economy, and democracy, while the other part continues to cling to the communist one-party rule, Peterle stressed. Slovenia agrees with the winner of the Croation elections, Tudjman, on main points, he said.

In this century, Slovenia missed its ojective of achieveing a voluntary unification of the south Slavic nations twice—the first time a Serbian dictatorship and the second time a Serbian-communist dictatorship was created. He, Peterle, is full of hope about the third approach enveloped in a democratic Europe.

According to Peterle, the economic problems are a heavy burden for the country, but this would immediately change if Slovenia were no longer "drained" by the Belgrade central government. "We will be pleased to contribute" to a future confederation, the chairman of the Slovenian Christian Democrats stated.

The compulsory contribution to the headquarters was increased by 87 percent in one year, with the Army expenditure being the greatest item, Peterle stressed and called this an "anachronism" in a time of general military detente.

In Peterle's view, it would be inappropriate to be especially afraid of an intervention by the Yugoslav Army, which is dominated by Serbs. This would shorten "Yugoslavia's agony." Now Slovenia and Croatia together are strong enough; after all, the Army also consists of soldiers from these nations. And finally the Serbian leadership also has to consider the opinion of the world, as shown by the acquittal in the Vllasi lawsuit, which was certainly not due to a "neutral and objective legal system."

New Slovene News Agency Founded in Ljubljana

LD2804135690 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1110 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, Apr 28 (TANJUG)—In the Yugoslav republic of Slovenia, the first independent privately owned news agency called "TISKOVNO SREDISCE LJUBLJANA" (unofficially "THE PRESS CENTRE LJUBLJANA") has been founded—writes today's BORBA daily published in Belgrade.

Dejan Vercic, agency manager and until recently chief of the Slovenia's ZSMS [Slovene Socialist Youth Federation]-Liberal Party information staff, said his agency would rely upon the commercial principle in its filling "a wide gap in agency reporting under the new multiparty conditions in Yugoslavia and Slovenia."

The agency emerged as a result of the Slovene public's discontent with the official Yugoslav TANJUG news agency's ways of reporting, said Vercic.

News Conference Held on Serbian-Slovene Trade

LD2704163690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1137 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, 27 Apr (TANJUG)—The exchange of goods between Serbia and Slovenia is on the increase, and economic profit is the main reason for the business cooperation, Chief Federal Market Inspector Bozidar Ivetic stated today for the "In the course of reform" program at a regular conference with journalists from Yugoslav radio stations.

According to him, even in Serbia there are examples of contracts with business partners being broken in favor of new ones with Slovene firms (mainly producers of raw materials) that offer more favorable prices and better quality products. A large number of checks in both republics confirm the resumption of cooperation, Ivetic said, but he did not cite details of the number of such organizations nor those that are possibly still adhering to the boycott.

Last month inspectors found that every fifth firm in the country was in breach of the regulations, whether it concerned trends in prices of goods and services (mostly communal services), transport, turnover, quality of goods, or the irregularity of imported products. Imported goods to the value of 17.7 million dinars were withdrawn from circulation, including because the accompanying documentation was missing, Ivetic recalled.

Although the inspectors were kept very busy last month, the regulations are now being broken less frequently then last year, when on the average 40 to 42 percent of the inspected firms were conducting business illegally.

In the conditions of liberalization of prices and imports and adopting regulations only on what is forbidden, it is understandable that the number of "violators" is on the decrease, Ivetic concluded.

Although the regulations on the foreign exchange and foreign trade have been liberalized to the maximum, which, in addition to the convertibility of the dinar, for our citizens represents the possibility of freely buying foreign currency and taking it out of the country according to their needs, the Federal Foreign Exchange Inspectorate is recording an increase in foreign currency offenses committed by individual citizens. Deputy Federal Foreign Exchange Inspector Dragan Lazovic today explained to the journalists that citizens often do not have a foreign currency withdrawal certificate from the bank, which is the condition for taking currency out of the country.

In the first three months this year there were 3,000 such offenses recorded, in comparison with 2,500 in the same period last year. As regards business activity the situation is reversed, and thus a huge number of offenses have ceased with the new reformatory regulations in the field of foreign exchange and foreign trade activities. What is appearing now is mostly the tail end of transactions which were negotiated at the time of restrictive regulations, high inflation, and lack of foreign currency. There are no details yet on foreign exchange offenses committed by tourists from East European countries after the introduction of the compulsory exchange of $200, because this regulation has been in force only for a week, Lazovic replied to a journalist's question on the enforcement of the new measure.

Serb Politician Faces Charges Over Statements

LD2804210690 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1717 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] Ljubljana, April 28 (TANJUG)—The public prosecutor's office in Ljubljana has been asked to start legal action against member of the Presidency of Yugoslavia's Republic of Serbia Mihalj Kertes, a statement issued by the cabinet of president of the Yugoslav State Presidency Dr Janez Drnovsek on Saturday said.

The move has been linked with Kertes's public statements "aimed systematically at discrediting the Yugoslav State Presidency and its president Dr Janez Drnovsek."

Whether Dr Drnovsek has personally filed charges against Kertes is not clear from the statement, which adds however that "President Drnovsek does not want to enter into any polemic at such a low level. He assumes that Mihalj Kertes speaks in his own name and not that of the Presidency of the Republic of Serbia." The statement also says that Serbia is expected to distance itself from similar statements of Mihalj Kertes.

Trifunovic Addresses Vojvodina Audience

AU2604205090 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 22 Apr 90 p 6

[M. Sasic report: "By Getting Things Settled in Serbia We Are Resolving Serious Problems in Yugoslavia"]

[Excerpts] Srbobran, Titov Vrbas, 21 Apr—Dr. Bogdan Trifunovic, president of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the League of Communists [LC] of Serbia, and Nedeljko Sipovac, president of the Presidium of the Provincial Committee of the LC of Vojvodina, yesterday visited Srbobran and Titov Vrbas.

Speaking in front of the audience of the completely full hall of the Srbobran cooperative, where the guests were greeted with applause, Dr. Bogdan Trifunovic said:

"We are in the process of concluding an extremely broad and democratic discussion on the draft document of the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia entitled 'The Basic Orientations of the LC of Serbia as a Party for Democratic Socialism.' We have not been giving lectures on nor demanding an uncritical support for the proposed formulations. This has indeed been an extensive and open dialogue among the members of the LC of Serbia about the necessary changes in the LC of Serbia and its program orientations.

"Taking into account the preliminary reports, the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia will decide on the final text of the document through a discussion. The basic orientations of the LC of Serbia have been strong support, but many new proposals were made too.

"The people see that much has been done in Serbia in the last three years, because the LC of Serbia and its present leadership have resolutely decided in favor of changes in economic and political relations. The citizens demand that we pursue this path further, find a way out of the crisis as soon as possible, conduct our business affairs in a modern way, introduce democracy in our socialism, and ensure a peaceful and better life on equal footing. The democratic orientation of the LC of Serbia, its confirmed commitment to reject remaining bureaucratic dogmas and unreal assumptions, and to be the exponent of the new and progressive trends in the economy, political life, and culture are seen by the citizens as a guarantee that we will overcome present difficulties and embark on modern development," Trifunovic stressed.

For Bold Changes Toward Democratic Socialism

"The established unity in the Socialist Republic of Serbia, to which the LC of Serbia significantly contributed, is also seen by the people as a guarantee for peace, prosperity and equality among our peoples and nationalities. It is in fact with this unity in the Socialist

Republic of Serbia, with our endeavor for a modern Yugoslav federation and a community of equal peoples, nationalities, and citizens that we are resolving serious problems in Yugoslavia. In brief, the LC of Serbia is not inventing empty programs and policies. It is relying on everything that has been achieved after the eighth session of the Central Committee of Serbia, on everything that has confirmed itself in practice and that has been supported by the people. At the 11th congress of the LC of Serbia we said that we are not and will not be the guardians of the obsolete, but the exponent of progressive ideas." [passage omitted]

Unified Yugoslav Party—Not For Its Own Sake, But For the Sake of Yugoslavia

"We must not lose the sight of the fact that the clear commitments of the LC of Serbia to democratic socialism, a united Serbia, and a unified Yugoslav federation must be supported in all elections and by the majority of our citizens. I am convinced that we have all conditions to achieve this and remain on the firm, modern, democratic, and socialist orientations, and that we can behave likewise in practice.

"Only such a party can attract young people as either the sympathizers or voters. Can we bear the fact that only 15 percent of the current membership of the LC of Serbia are young people?" [passage omitted]

Trifunovic emphasized in particular that the "Basic Orientations of the LC of Serbia as a Party for Democratic Socialism" is not a complete program, but that it expresses the orientations of the LC of Serbia in a coherent way. "We have not arrived at these orientations from textbooks, but from experience. These discussions will help us arrive at correct orientations," Trifunovic said.

"National equality," Trifunovic continued, "is a precondition for development and a peaceful life in Vojvodina, Serbia, and Yugoslavia. The time when our nationalities were frightened with a unified Serbia have long gone."

We Want To Return Life and Young People to Rural Areas

The biggest number of questions addressed to the presidents of the two party organizations in Serbobran and Titov Vrbas referred to the problems in Kosovo and slanders against the LC of Serbia that came from Slovenia and Croatia.

Answering these, Trifunovic said that the problem of Kosovo and emigrants from Albania has been simmering for a long time, and that it has created the impression that nothing is being done.

"People demand that we take care of Serbia," the president of the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia said in reply to the question. "This is what we are doing. They are also asking us not to abandon Yugoslavia which they very much care about. Therefore, one should be persistent and principled in the struggle for this country. It is not good to ascribe to entry nations the mistakes that were made by their leaderships. We do not want to outvote anybody, we only want this country to remain in the only form in which it can survive in the world.

Nedeljko Sipovac, president of the Presidium of the Provincial Committee of the LC of Vojvodina, emphasized the development of political democracy and the market economy.

"Without them," he told citizens of Srbobran and Titov Vrbas, "there will be no efficient economy, or democratic society."

Sipovac placed special emphasis on the intentions of the Vojvodina communists, which he called crucial, to return life and young people to rural areas.

He particularly stressed that the Commission for Agriculture of the Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Serbia was the first to offer some concrete solutions for agriculture.

[The following passage appears boxed within the body of the item]

Accusations Against Serbia Crumble Before the Facts of Life

We have been accused of not offering anything to Kosovo except repression, which is not true—Trifunovic said. We have invested considerable funds and will to solve problems there. We adopted a program according to which we are offering peace to everybody, but also ask everybody to work and stop strikes. We want those responsible for the current crisis punished.

The accusations from Croatia and Slovenia according to which we are promoting Stalinism, Trifunovic continued, are crumbling before the facts of life. People here are free, there are no bans of any kinds, and they are working on a better life.

Vojvodina LC Supports Congress Continuation

LD2704130190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0942 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Novi Sad, 27 Apr (TANJUG)—The LCY [League of Communists of Yugoslavia] Central Committee Presidium proposal to continue in May the 14th Extraordinary LCY Congress as a congress of renewal of the organization was supported today at the session of the Vojvodina LC Provincial Committee Presidium. This stance is also the basic orientation of the Vojvodina LC in favor of program renewal and the transformation of the LCY into a modern socialist and democratic party and preservation of its Yugoslav character.

The Presidium feels that the congress should adopt a statement that the declaration represents a temporary program document ensuring continuity until the drafting of a new program and statute of the LCY.

The congress should dissolve the organs of the LCY and elect a committee for the preparation of a new congress. The committee would at the same time act as the leadership of the LCY until the congress. In addition, it would adopt a decision on drafting a new program and statute of the LCY.

It was assessed that the proposal of the LCY Central Committee Presidium is a realistic basis for overcoming the stalemate and maintaining continuity in the political activity of the LCY. It ensures that it is the delegates who determine the fate of the congress in accordance with the wishes of the membership; that is, that the work of the congress, be concluded in a statutory and politically acceptable manner.

The Presidium also examined and endorsed the initiatives of the central committees of the Montenegro and Bosnia-Hercegovina LCs and the LCY Committee in the JNA [Yugoslav People's Army], which also advocate convening a congress of program renewal. The conclusion of the 14th Extraordinary LCY Congress, Nedeljko Sipovac [Vojvodina LC Provincial Committee Presidium president] believes, would be just a beginning in the renewal and continuation of the Yugoslav orientation of the LCY, and substantial renewal and transformation of the LC would follow at the new congress, which should be held by the end of the year at the latest.

In 1989, 11,343 members left the Vojvodina LC, 606 of them expelled, 5,334 written off the records, and 5,403 voluntarily left the ranks of the LC. At the end of last year the membership of the Vojvodina LC stood at around 178,000 members. [passage omitted]

Indjija Radio Station Resumes Broadcasts

LD2604151490 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0715 GMT 26 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Indjija, 26 Apr (TANJUG)—Following a 15-day "silence about local news" the radio station in Indjija today resumed its regular broadcasts. At last night's session of Indjija Socialist Alliance of Working People [SAWP] municipal conference which was also attended by Radovan Pankov, president of Vojvodina SAWP, a decision was made to "freeze", until futher notice an earlier decision suspending Mira Maric, the station's director and editor in chief.

In the meantime, the Indjija Radio Program Council has been called on to assess the work of the station's journalists, who came out on strike on 30 March to protest a decision by the Presidium of the Indjija SAWP municipal conference to dismiss Mira Maric and to appoint a working group with the task of analyzing editorial policy mistakes from mid-1988. [passage omitted]

Kosovo Party Welcomes Release of Prisoners

LD2704190390 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1605 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Pristina, April 27 (TANJUG)—The Democratic Alliance of Kosovo, the opposition party in this Yugoslav province, welcomes the release of political prisoners, especially of Adem Demaci—the Yugoslav number one political prisoner, journalists were told on Friday by Fehmi Agani, leadership member of this party, which rallies ethnic Albanians.

Following the recent lifting of the state of emergency in Kosovo province, within the Republic of Serbia, the court four days ago released former Kosovo party chief Azem Vlasi and 14 others charged with counter-revolutionary activities.

Demaci, an ethnic Albanian who spent the past 28 years in prison for anti-government activities based on Albanian nationalism and separatism, was set free earlier.

The Democratic Alliance also welcomed the election of Milan Kucan as president of the Slovenian Presidency at the multiparty presidential elections in the northern republic Slovenia and the results of the elections in Croatia, where the majority of the electorate voted for the right-wing nationalist Croatian Democratic Union (CDU).

Kosovo Edition of KOMMUNIST Discontinued

LD2604151390 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1144 GMT 26 Apr 90

[Text] Pristina, 26 Apr (TANJUG)—The Kosovo League of Communists Provincial Committee Presidium today decided that the provincial edition of KOMMUNIST is to be discontinued and that bankruptcy proceedings for the basic organization of associated labor will be set in motion. Soon possibilities for starting up a new paper of the Kosovo League of Communists as the Party for Democratic Socialism should be considered.

New President of Macedonian Presidency Elected

LD2804221190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1838 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Summary] Skopje, 28 Apr (TANJUG)—Dr Vladimir Mitkov was elected new president of the Macedonian Presidency at today's session of this body. His mandate will run until the forthcoming general elections and no later than 28 April next year. The election of the new president is in keeping with the Macedonian Constitution, whereby the presidency elects a president from within its own ranks.

Macedonian Communists Against May LCY Session

LD2704230190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1037 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] Skopje, 27 Apr (TANJUG)—The League of Communists of Yugoslavia Central Committee [LCY CC] session scheduled for 4 May has been inflicted [as received]. Its agenda is unacceptable and it is the intention of its organizers to play with public emotions on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of Josip Broz Tito's death. These are the words used by members of the Macedonian LC-Party for Democratic Transformation CC Presidium commenting on convening an LCY CC session for 4 May. They also thought it unacceptable the session should be held on the eve of the second round of elections in Croatia, where communists are fighting a fierce battle with the opposition.

(?If) LCY CC members from the Macedonian LC come to the 4 May session, they will discuss initiatives for holding a new congress of the LCY and not the latter, which is illegitimate, abolishes republican organizations, and can only broaden divisions.